

the chronicle

Timely reminder

At 1am
Sunday 25th
your clocks go
forward
one hour
to 2am

British summertime
starts

Museum trip

Pupils stock up on
their horrible history

Page 10

**Biking boy**

Bradley, 15, prepares
for the championship

Page 40



Praise for the school that beat axe threat

A HALESOWEN school that was threatened with closure five years ago has received positive results in its latest Ofsted inspection.

Parents were outraged when Halesowen Cofe Primary was on the verge of closure as 37 per cent of places were unfilled.

The 174-year-old school ended up being saved after a public consultation when more than 1,500 people signed a petition.

The report – which gives the school an overall “good” rating – says standards have improved since its last inspection in 2009 when it was graded satisfactory.

Inspectors told pupils and staff at the High Street school they were good and improving constantly with good student achievement and attainment rising steadily.

In a letter to pupils, inspectors said: “We found you to be friendly, polite and very easy to talk with.”

Good

“You are very proud of your school and this is shown in the school song you wrote and performed so beautifully in the assembly.”

Inspectors found the school gave pupils a good start in the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Leadership and management were good and the headteacher and other members of the senior leadership team provided “outstanding” leadership “which has brought about sustained improvement in key areas of the school’s work,” the report said.

Head Angela Hannaway said: “It is a tremendous achievement for our school – we are extremely proud of our children, our staff and our community who have worked together to achieve this result.”

A good blow

DUDLEY’s Phoenix West Midlands Brass Band is through to the national finals after coming second in the annual Midland Championships of Great Britain in Bedworth.

DOMINIC SHINES AS TORCHBEARER

By Heather Large

A SCHOOLBOY from Halesowen will be the youngest bearer of the Olympic Torch as it makes its way around the country. Dominic Macgowan, aged 11, will carry the flame in the West Midlands on July 1.

The keen footballer, who is a student at Leasowen Community College, has been given the honour because of his sporting enthusiasm and ability. Dominic was in London as part of the Olympic celebrations this week. He was joined in the capital by 99-year-old Dinah Gould, who will be 100 when the Games start making her the oldest torchbearer.

Dominic had been being recognised by LOCOG’s Get Set Network, the Olympics’ education programme. He plays for Cadburys Athletic Football Club and West Bromwich Albion Shadsworth Squad and is an indoor rock climber and involved in all sporting activities in school. Dominic, who will be 12 at the time of the relay, will carry the torch during its Birmingham route. He said he was “most nervous about falling over”.

A host of unsung heroes from the Dudley borough have been chosen to carry the Olympic torch through the region.

Ben Hudson, a 17-year-old student at King Edward VI College, Stourbridge, was chosen to be a torch bearer following his bravery during a violent attack on a fellow pupil of Ridgewood High School last April.

Running coach Rita Vanes, of Wordsley, will also carry the flame. The 63-year-old grandmother of three was nominated by members of Dudley Ladies’ Running Club.

“The excitement is really starting to build now and it is brilliant that people from the Black Country will be able to see the Olympic torch ahead of the games,” Mrs Vanes said.

The Olympic torch arrives in Dudley on June 30 and will travel by canal and tram during part of its route through the borough paying homage to the borough’s past.

When the torch crosses the Wolverhampton-Dudley border, a host of festivities have been lined up at The Coseley School and Specialist Sports College.

People are expected to line the streets as it then makes its way along the Birmingham New Road and past Silver Jubilee Park, where Olympic-themed activities will be held around the healthy hub building.

The flame will continue to Dudley Canal Trust where it will be taken by canal boat to the Black Country Living Museum where it will travel by tram. It will leave the museum along Tipton Road before heading towards Burnt Tree via Castle Gate island and crossing the border into Sandwell.

Other activities include a tea dance on May 30 and a We’ll Meet Again jubilee edition show on May 31, both at Dudley Concert Hall.

Tickets cost £4 and £11 respectively and can be booked on 01384 812812.

Priory Park will also be hosting a picnic in the park on June 6 and residents are invited to bring a picnic and join in with free activities.

The council is planning a big street party in Dudley town centre on June 2.



The youngest and the oldest Olympic torchbearers, Dominic Macgowan, from Halesowen and 99-year-old Dinah Gould celebrated their selection

Archives dig starts revival of tourism

A MULTI-MILLION POUND project to revamp Dudley’s biggest tourist attractions has been kick-started with a ground-breaking ceremony for the borough’s new archives centre.

Government minister Baroness Joan Hanham was invited to turn the first spade of soil on the site in Tipton Road, near the Black Country Living Museum.

Dudley Archives will pave the way for a wider £10.1 million regeneration plan for Castle Hill linking Dudley Zoo, the Black Country Living Museum and Dudley Canal Trust waterways.

Baroness Hanham was joined by Dudley Council leader Councillor Les Jones and Dudley Zoo chief executive Peter Suddock for the event last week.

“Regeneration projects are vital at the present time, and I’ve been very impressed by the enthusiasm shown by Dudley Council, other organisations and businesses for this project,” she said.

Hoped

“Tourism is a great way of bringing more people into the area, and I think the whole West Midlands would benefit from having a new tourist destination.”

It is hoped the centre, which will house Dudley’s archives dating back to the 12th Century, will be completed by summer 2013.

Dudley Archives, which is costing £6m, will have a local history library, conservation studio, lecture theatre and conference rooms.

At the same time a new road will be built between the museum and zoo as part of a £10m revamp.

Baroness Hanham had started her visit at the zoo meeting staff and chief executive Peter Suddock.

Sporting plan

A SPORTS club in Halesowen has lodged plans with the council to extend its gym. Robert Fowkes, chairman of Halesowen Athletic & Cycling Club in Manor Way, submitted them.

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Last-ditch bid to save care centre

CAMPAIGNERS pleaded with council bosses at the final public meeting to be held on the future of a closure-threatened care home in Kingswinford.

New Bradley Hall could shut as part of a shake-up of adult social care services in the Dudley borough.

But last night, campaigners said it was vital that it remained open

for its 30 existing residents and also for future generations.

Among those who spoke against closure was Black Country entertainer Marlene Watson, from Kingswinford, who praised the care residents received.

Happy

She told the meeting she had been performing at the care home

for many years and said the residents were settled and happy.

"What they want is to be happy and comfortable, have all their friends around them and be cared for where they are," she said.

"Nobody wants it to close," she added.

Campaign leader Mac Scott, whose 94-year-old mother-in-law Irene Claridge lives at New

Bradley Hall, said the council should listen to the strength of feeling against the plans.

"There has not been one person at any of the public meetings who has been against our campaign to keep New Bradley Hall open," said the 72-year-old.

A consultation has been launched and is being managed by Age UK Dudley.

Action call over badger damage

A SANDSTONE cliff near homes is starting to crumble and gardens are being torn up by badgers burrowing near to homes in Wordsley.

Residents in The Haven say the animals have plagued the area for three years with the situation getting worse.

But because the badgers are a protected species finding a solution has proved difficult.

Urgent talks are now being held between Dudley Council and Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to resolve it.

Residents say the badgers moved into the area looking for food and have burrowed out sets in the sandstone cliff surrounding the estate.

Lorraine Price, aged 81, who has lived in The Haven for 21 years, said large amounts of sandstone and debris had fallen on to her drive.

Her garden has also been torn up by the badgers plants have been destroyed.

"It is very worrying," she said.

Councillor Geoff Southall said: "The council is working with Defra to try and find a solution."

Speedway hero backs Heathens' home fight

A SPEEDWAY legend has backed his former team to find a permanent home in the Black Country – as he was greeted by hundreds of fans on a return visit. Current world champion Greg Hancock raced for Dudley Heathens, then known as Cradley Heath Heathens, from 1989 to 1996.

Drivers face hold-ups in months of road works

DRIVERS will be affected by road works due to start in Halesowen next month.

From April 9 Coombs Road and Gorsty Hill Road will be made one-way to accommodate major road works by National Grid Gas and South Staffordshire Water.

The work is expected to take around seven to eight months and the direction of the one-way scheme will stay the same throughout.

Dudley Council will also undertake minor street maintenance works while the traffic management is in place.

Councillor Patrick Harley, cabinet member for transportation, said: "Following the success of Dudley town centre utility works, the Coombs Road joint working scheme will see Dudley Council working closely with the utility companies.

"Doing this enables us to condense the period of disruption to all road users and pedestrians – something we know is critical to our residents and businesses.

"I would like to thank everyone for their patience while we undertake these critical works."

And he spoke of his hope that the team where he started a career would find a new stadium.

This is after its Dudley Wood stadium was developed for housing more than 15 years ago.

Californian Mr Hancock, who moved to the Black Country in his teens, was invited to an car dealership event in Cradley Heath.

More than 800 fans flocked to see him at the Motoring Market dealership in just two hours on Saturday – and he admitted it had left him "emotional".

Campaigners have been working for years to find the club a new home but have struggled to get council backing.

Great

Mr Hancock, aged 41, who became world champion for the second time last year.

He said: "My whole career started here and it's really special to come back."

"This club has produced so many great riders and it's incredible to see people working to still hold the club together and find it a track. I really hope that the local councils will take stand because when you see the desire that this club has then surely something has got to be done."

"I hope it's just a matter of time and pledge my support to the campaign."

Dudley Council leader Les Jones has insisted there were many "planning and environmental obstacles" and said Sandwell Council was also looking into potential sites.



Adam Bridge, Jan O Pedersen, Greg Hancock and Dean Bridge, at the opening of Money Market car dealership in Cradley Heath.

Police give out advice

POLICE officers in Halesowen have announced details of a series of events organised in the community.

They are hosting at police and community together (PACT) meeting on April 4 at 7pm at Windsor High School, Richmond Street, where people can discuss issues they have within the Belle Vale neighbourhood.

Officers will also be holding surgeries at Dilys News, Alexandra Road, between 10am and 11am on March 31 and giving out crime prevention advice during an event at the Cornbow Centre between 1pm and 3pm on March 31.

Charity chosen

THE NEW captain of a golf and country club near Stourbridge has announced the town's Mary Stevens Hospice as her chosen charity for the coming year.

Celia Shakespeare is planning, with golfers at Hagley Golf and Country Club, to organise fundraising events.

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NEWS in brief

Online homes tracker is sold

A COUPLE have sold their new online property tracking system to their first estate agent customer, Lex Allen & Grove, Halesowen.

Richard and Emma Dalton, originally from Halesowen, set up Contact Counts in Sept-ember and run it from their home in Summervale Road, Halesowen.

"The system allows house sellers to track and monitor the progress of their house sale online 24/7. The product is unique in the market place and it is designed to solve age-old industry problems with communication," said Mr Dalton.

New courses to make a splash

CHILDREN can make a splash by signing up for swimming courses at Halesowen Leisure Centre. Two courses of five 30-minute sessions, will be held on Monday and Thursday mornings, starting next month.

The courses are aimed at children aged three and four and cost £23. For more information or to book a space call 01384 812800 or visit www.dudley.gov.uk/splash

Nor-way they'll fail to have fun

TRAVEL and tourism students from Halesowen College have planned their own trip to Norway.

As part of their BTEC diploma courses, students will be travelling to the Norwegian Fjords in April on a P&O cruise ship.

The group has been fundraising for excursion costs and will be given talks while onboard about potential job opportunities within the industry.

Youngsters help to revamp room

A SCHEME to revamp an outdated youth room at a church has been completed after youngsters raised funds and volunteered their time to redecorate the site.

The room at Ebenezer Baptist Church, Coseley, is used by two youth clubs in the town attended by 60 youngsters.

Railway rocking

TOP rock/blues bands, First Offence, just voted, Best Classic Rock Band 2011/2012 for the Midlands, will be performing at The Railway, Lyne at 9pm on March 29.

Staff call to have a duvet day

COUNCIL workers have asked their bosses for a free "duvet day" as well as a bonus sick day for a year's perfect attendance. Staff were asked for suggestions to help cut average sickness absence from 10 days per employee.

Amid the highest levels of unemployment in 17 years, Sandwell Council staff have asked for a free duvet day, which would not count as a sick day or leave, to drop average sickie numbers by at least one day per worker. Another suggestion is to reward staff who are never off sick.

Those who complete a year with perfect attendance will be given an incentive of an extra day's leave for the following year.

Workers have sent the ideas to the council's chief executive Jan Britton. It comes after each employee was sent a letter in the post warning them of how many sick days they have taken in the year.

Mr Britton said tough action was being taken against "skivers".

On the reward scheme, he added: "That's an interesting idea. In the past it's been a difficult thing to do, because we haven't always had the quality of data this would need."

First council care report

DUDLEY Council has published its first ever adult social care report.

The report, called Improving Lives, Making a Difference, analyses the council's performance for the past year.

It is based around five key areas, namely advice and guidance, prevention and early intervention, supporting people with specialist long-term conditions, safeguarding and consultation engagement and feedback.

Residents are asked to visit www.dudley.gov.uk/localaccount to view the report and accompanying questionnaire.

Titanic musical

A MUSICAL will be performed in Dudley to mark the 100th anniversary of the Titanic disaster.

Coward at Sea by Michael Lunts will take place at 7.30pm on April 14 in Netherton Arts Centre. For details and tickets contact Claire Starmer-Jones on 01384 813943.

Protesters regrouping over quarry battle

CAMPAIGNERS in Wall Heath are mustering their forces for a renewed battle after the owners of a proposed quarry switched access to the site to a stretch of road they say is an accident blackspot.

FG Davis & Sons is now asking Staffordshire County Council to approve its scheme for a new quarry on a 19-acre site in the village, but with access on to Mile Flat, rather than the originally-proposed Swindon Road.

The company says its proposals will safeguard and create jobs. The firm says if the scheme is rejected, it will be a "very

sad day for families, business and the industry."

But the Quarries Fighting Fund campaign now says it needs to raise more cash to add its formal objections to the revised access.

Notoriously

"Mile Flat is a fast, unlit road with no pavement and the new proposed entrance and exit to the quarry is on a 45 degree kink in the road, which is a notoriously bad bend where vehicles have been known to overturn," said campaign leader Dave Tyler. "It will be even worse with the addition

mud and slime on the road if this development goes ahead."

"We now need even more people to come forward and donate so that we can prepare the additional response we need following the amendments to the plans."

Besides amending proposals for the new quarry, FG Davis & Sons has also changed to its application to extend the use of its existing operation in nearby Envile Road, Wall Heath.

It had applied to extend the time it has to fill in the quarry workings in Envile Road by three years from October 31 2013

-but has now reduced that to an 18-month extension.

Mike Davis, director of FG Davis & Sons, said the proposed changes had been put forward following talks with the county council and responses from the general public.

Deposits

"The locations of quarries are ultimately governed by where the deposits are in the ground."

"These deposits are fundamental to the construction industry and affiliated industries," added Mr Davis.

Workers wanted to give new lease of life to club

A DERELICT former labour club in Brierley Hill could be given a new lease of life as a community cafe. Members of the group, Insight for Carers, want to open up the boarded-up building in Pearson Street which has stood empty for two years.

by Andrew Turton

But they are rallying tradesmen and volunteers to help them make the project a reality.

The group was set up three years ago by carer Marc Carter.

Offering support to carers, the group has been based at the Brierley Hill Project, in South Street, where members have run a cafe.

But due to the success and popularity of the service, members wanted to secure bigger premises and have taken up a lease on the labour club.

"We have been so grateful to the support of the Brierley Hill Project but we have been lucky enough to find our own place," Mr Carter said.

"Carers often feel so isolated and alone and they don't ask for much so we just try to offer support."

Plans include creating a new cafe and a sensory room.

But the group need help with the substantial building works including fitting a heating and hot water

system. The group is seeking decorators, plasterers and electricians who came give time to help out and building materials.

Windows also need replacing and new doors fitted to the empty building.

Project co-ordinator Loraine Stockton added: "We are hoping that it will be a thriving centre for the community."

The main structure of the building is fine but a lot of work is still needed.

Inviting

"It will be for carers predominantly but we're also inviting the public to come down."

Insight for Carers is applying for charity status to help it will its future fundraising efforts. But Mr Carter said any donation or assistance to help the new venture would be gratefully received.

Anyone able to help is asked to call Loraine Stockton on 07817 320517 or email loraine@insightforcarers.org.

Store fundraising bid

STAFF at a Black Country supermarket are staging a series of fundraising events for Sport Relief. Zumba sessions at the Sainsbury's in Amblecote take place on Friday, from 6pm to 8pm and Saturday from 10am to noon and 2pm to 4pm.

Store manager Vernon Dix and deputy manager Andy Mosley have also signed up for the Sport Relief Mile at the Dell Sports Stadium, Brierley Hill on Sunday. A Question of Sport-style quiz night will be held at the store on April 1.



Dudley's mayor Michael Evans and pupils Jacob McCullagh, William Whitehouse and Chloe Montroy put in plants to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee

Planting to mark Jubilee

YOUNG gardeners have dug in and helped to plant 30 trees and a variety of plants to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Pupils from Lutley Primary School, Halesowen were joined by the mayor of Dudley, Councillor Michael Evans to get the event rooted in.

The saplings were planted by the schoolchildren near the brook at the side of the school drive.

Headteacher Rebecca Cox said 20 children from the school's eco-council took part.

"They enjoyed planting the saplings and talking to the mayor about his duties and mayoral chain. A plaque has been installed by the trees which says Jubilee Wood."

Volunteers held a planting event at Stevens Park and Old Swinford Common on March 17 to mark the jubilee.

Also volunteers from Kingswinford and Stourbridge Lions will be working with Dudley Council to plant 420 trees over the coming weeks.

Spades and gloves will be available to anyone who would like to help with the planting.

Anyone who wants to get involved should call Ihsrat Karim at Dudley Council on 01384 816994.

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AIRLINES and shipping firms have stopped importing research animals following a Facebook campaign by animal-rights activists. So British research into dementia and other terrible diseases is now being dictated by people who seriously believe that the life of a human is no more important than that of a laboratory mouse. Welcome to the asylum.



A WORKING men's club in County Durham has threatened to expel a member for breaking wind. The flatulent offender protests: "In the past I've actually been awarded pints for clearing a bar at closing time when the landlord wanted everyone to leave." A hero, left behind by the wind of change!

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Firefighters turning up the heat for safety



Firefighters Andy Nixon, left, and Pete Walters with Harley Smith, who saved his family after a chip pan fire

FIREFIGHTERS went back to school to give pupils in Brierley Hill a fire safety message – inspired by the lucky escape of one of their classmates.

St Mary's RC Primary School pupil Harley Smith, aged 10, had tried to tackle a chip pan fire at his home in North View Drive, Harts

Hill, last December

using a wet towel.

He decided to fetch his neighbours who called in emergency crews to put out the fire and led his mother Noelle to safety.

Members of Brierley Hill fire

station's blue watch attended the fire last year.

They came down to his school recently to give a talk and a demonstration of what can happen if



Firefighters from Blue Watch, Brierley Hill Fire Station visited St Mary's RC Primary School, Mill Street, Brierley Hill, for a demonstration on the dangers of chip pan fires

people attempt to put out a fire themselves. Watch Commander Nick Lacey said: "Harley did a great job in raising the alarm and telling us what had happened so that we could get everyone out safely and extinguish the blaze."

"And while we understand the reasons people might try to tackle some fires themselves, we cannot stress enough how important it is for people to get out, stay out and

phone 999. Thankfully, Harley and his mum managed to escape, but the outcome could have been so much worse, even fatal and others might not be quite so lucky."

"By talking to friends and relatives about what they have seen and learned, we hope our vital fire safety messages will spread far beyond the school playground and into the community," added Commander Lacey.

Delight as tigers settling in at zoo

DUDLEY Zoo curators are delighted with the progress of two recently-arrived rare tigresses, Tschuna and Daseep.

Some of their fans in Germany, where they used to live, are planning to come to the Black Country to see them in their new home.

The endangered females made history at the Castle Hill site when they arrived on February 15 and were hoisted by crane into the site's big cat enclosure.

It is only the second time the difficult manoeuvre has been made since the zoo opened in 1937.

Zoo spokesman Jill Hitchman said: "Tschuna and Daseep have settled in; they are eating and sleeping well and spending a lot of time playing in the external enclosure. They are very calm with keepers and the vet is pleased at how steady they are."

She added: "We have been amazed at just how many people have turned out to see them."

Church concert

A SERIES of concerts featuring a range of musical styles will be held at a Kidderminster church.

The events will be at St George's Church, Radford Avenue. The first, featuring saxophonist Julian Smith, a Britain's Got Talent runner-up in 2009, is on March 24.

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Cyclist record holder gives talk
CYCLING adventurer Vin Cox is visiting Stourbridge to talk about his exploits.

The illustrated talk will be the latest in the Stourbridge Celebrity Lectures programme and takes place at Stourbridge Town Hall on March 29 at 7.45pm.

Mr Cox cycled around the world in 2010, raising more than £100,000 for charity and entering the Guinness Book of Records.

Tickets cost £6 and are available on the door or from the Mary Stevens Hospice shop, High Street.

Programme of walks is laid on

A NEW programme of walks has been launched at a Midlands beauty spot.

Guided rambles will take place on the second Wednesday of each month at the Clent Hills. The walks are around five miles.

They leave from the cafe at Nimmings Wood Car Park at 10am and finish around 1pm. To book call Laura Broadhurst on 01562 712 822 or email laura.broadhurst@nation altrust.org.uk

Council leaflet no waste of time

WORCESTERSHIRE County Council had produced a leaflet urging people to reduce waste by offering unwanted items to charities and needy groups.

Copies can be obtained by calling 01905 766883.

People are wanted for saint's day

ORGANISERS are looking for people to take part in the St George's Day parade in Stourbridge.

The parade on April 21, kicks off a day of activities which will include live music, children's entertainment and a free tea dance.

The parade will set off from Coventry Street at 10.30am and make its way up the High Street where the Mayor of Dudley, Councillor Michael Evans, will officially open the event at 11am.

There will be live performances on the main stage, as well as activities and music around the town until 4pm.

Councillor Evans said: "This is an important and fun event and I'm so pleased to be playing a part in it this year."

"I hope lots of clubs, community groups, schools and colleges join us on the day and help make this a special event for Stourbridge."

Clubs or community groups interested in taking part should contact Kate Rochester Jones on 01384 815222 or email kate.roch ester-jones@dudley.gov.uk

The event will include a civic procession through the town, music and dancing.

Plans approved

AN EXTENSION to a house in Brierley Hill can go ahead after councillors agreed to the demolition of an existing conservatory.

Dudley Council's planning committee agreed to officers' recommendations and approved the plans for Blithfield Drive.

Meal to your door giving the takeaway market a roasting

Curries and pizzas may be the usual takeaway dishes – but you can now get roast dinners with all the trimmings delivered to your door thanks to a new culinary venture. Ring4Roast has been set up by friends Rachael Smith and Sarah Cummons in their bid to save people the mess and stress involved in cooking the traditional Sunday roast.

The first customers tucked into their Ring4Roast dinners recently, and said they thoroughly enjoyed the home cooked feel to their takeaway feast.

Rachael, aged 34, from the Northway, Sedgley, first hit on the idea after friends said how much they loved a traditional Sunday lunch but could not be bothered with all the preparation.

She contacted her friend 33-year-old Sarah, of Milking Bank, who runs the Little Devils Diner, Moor Street, Brierley Hill, about the idea and the pair decided to set up the service.

Rachael and Sarah, who have been friends since the age of five, launched the firm, called Ring4Roast.

Customer

Machinist Ray Davies was their first customer, and he decided to pick up his Sunday roast dinner, from the diner. The 63-year-old from Hulland Place, Brierley Hill said: "I am a single man, so I wouldn't cook it myself. I usually go out for Sunday dinner, but thought this way I can go out for a beer first, and then take it home to eat."

"I will reheat it in the microwave after I have been to the pub. It gives me the chance to eat it where I am most comfortable, and I can watch the football and rugby on the TV at the same time."

Mr Davies was so impressed he has already ordered his next roast dinner. Sheila Sneyd also enjoyed a Ring4Roast with her 31-year-old daughter, Lucy, after having it delivered to her Wordsley home.

"It is very good for busy people like myself."

Prices range between £7.95 and £8.95. For details go to www.ring4roast.co.uk



Ring4Roast partners Rachael Smith, left, and Sarah Cummons who deliver Sunday roasts from Little Devils Diner in Brierley Hill

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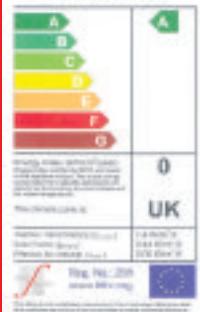
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£1m crematorium work to start soon

WORK costing £1 million to replace cremation facilities at Gornal Wood Cemetery and Crematorium will begin next month.

Dudley Council is making the investment as the existing cremators are nearing the end of their working life.

The work is needed to meet new government requirements to cut down emissions of mercury, which come from dental fillings.

The council has assured families that cremations will still be able to take place while the work, which is due to

start in April, goes on. It is hoped the work will be completed by the end of September.

The council says it will also take the opportunity to redecorate the chapel and install a sheltered, waiting area outside the building.

Check out councillor and coffee at supermarket

SHOPPERS from Belle Vale were invited to share a cuppa with their councillor at a new advice surgery in Halesowen.

The first of the free coffee mornings took place at the Cornbow Centre Asda restaurant last week and was hosted by Belle Vale councillor Jill Nicholls, who teamed up with Asda's community liaison department.

Councillor Nicholls said the event was a great success.

"It was enjoyable time for the residents who said how nice it was that the service was available to them," she added.

"I am delighted to be starting this new initiative and taking this service out into the community."

"It is important to be available anytime and anywhere to listen to residents' concerns, while enjoying what the store has to offer."

Everyone who attended received one free hot drink, paid for by Asda.

Asda's community liaison officer Sam Warby said: "We are very happy to be participating in this new venture to help bring the community together with their local councillor."

Store Manager Andre Batchelor added: "Asda plays a big part in the local community, and intends to get even more involved throughout the year."

The advice surgery will be held every other month, with the next on May 11, from 9am -11am.



Councillor Jill Nicholls with, from left, Sam Warby, community colleague, store manager Andre Batchelor and cafe manager Rachael Andrews

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Traffic problems behind council's car wash refusal

PROPOSALS for a new hand car wash and sales forecourt on a busy road linking Brierley Hill to the Merry Hill shopping centre have been thrown out by councillors, who claimed it would increase traffic problems.

Dudley Council also said the business would allow dirty water to flow into drains and the street.

The overgrown site, off Level Street, is part of land earmarked for a major regeneration scheme in the Black Country town near The Waterfront.

Members of the council's development control committee decided to go against officers' recommendations and refused the temporary three-year proposal for the

site at a planning meeting. Firms operating nearby had lodged objections to the proposals stating there would be insufficient parking spaces for staff and customers.

Similar proposals had been rejected by the authority last May – a decision upheld on appeal to the Planning Inspectorate.

But planning officers analysing the new application claimed the problems with drainage from the site had been addressed.

Members decided to refuse the application on the grounds that the extensive works needed to create suitable drainage on the land would not make a three-year approval appropriate.

Have a mind for fears



Ann Smith at a cooking session

ANN Smith was in her 50s when she went to her front door with her shopping bag to go out one day – and could go no further.

"I couldn't move – I just wanted to huddle out of the way," said Ann. "I just went back in and cried."

That was the day agoraphobia – fear of open spaces – really set in.

Now, now 70, of Dingle Road, Sedgley, had always had a happy marriage to husband Derek, had worked as a copy typist and shop assistant, as well as bringing up her two children. Looking back, she says there had been a few signs before that day.

There had been times when she was out that she had felt "wobbly" – not

right". But, after her frightening incident on the doorstep, she could not go out at all. "It was several months after it happened that I went to the doctor's, and I remember saying that I felt like I was going mad," she added.

She was prescribed some tablets for anxiety and was recommended to contact Dudley Mind, a charity which offers support to people with mental health problems.

Martin Mueller, chief executive of Dudley Mind, said It has a number of women's groups in the area – including Ladies Day from 10 to 3.30pm on Thursdays at Kingswinford Christian Centre, Summer Street and Asian Women's Group on Mondays from 10am to midday at Lye Community Centre, Cross Walks Road.

Heathens win award

SPEEDWAY team Dudley Heathens has seen its matchday programme named the best in the National League by magazine writers.

Speedway Star rated the publication high on design, content and value for money.

Club chairman and editor Nigel Pearson said: "This is excellent recognition for the club and my thanks go to all the contributors and photographer John Hipkiss for their hard work.

"We will be working hard to produce another high-quality publication this season."

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thechronicle

NEWS in brief

Beth is the best with audience

THIS year's recipient of Startime Variety award for the person who has done the most for society is Beth Hemmings.

The 24-year-old played Silly Billy in Halesowen group's pantomime Jack and the Beanstalk in February at the town's Cornbow Hall.

Every year the Tony Vincent Award goes to a member of the society who the audience think gave the most outstanding performance. Tony was a member of for more than 20 years until his death in August 2000 aged 59.

Nursery nurse Beth, from Bromsgrove, has been a member of Startime Variety for 13 years. She is producing its next show with Jodie Rock, which will be at Lutley Community Centre Halesowen in July.

Pupils just fail to net national title

PUPILS at a Dudley school missed out on the finals of a national badminton championship.

The under-14s girls team at The Kingswinford School lost their last game to at the National Badminton School Championships in Birmingham.

Julien blows in

A SAXOPHONIST from Halesowen who came second in Britain's Got Talent leads a new programme of events at a church. Julian Smith will perform at St George's Church in Hoo Road, Kidderminster, on Saturday.

Final stage nears of how town will look in future

A BLUEPRINT guiding how new buildings, public spaces and redesigned streets planned for Brierley Hill will look has entered a crucial final stage. Developments such as five new public areas and a wildlife corridor linking beauty spots in form part of an area action plan agreed by Dudley Council last year.

And a further document which will guide how new schemes in the town will be designed and created has now gone out to a six-week consultation after being backed by councillors.

The Brierley Hill Supplementary Planning Document is a key part of deciding new developments for the town up until 2026.

The aims of the plan are to create a network of streets and spaces uniting the town centre and surrounding areas, including the Merry Hill Shopping Centre.

It also aims to improve public thoroughfares to prioritise pedestrians, cyclists and public transport and ensure historic buildings are retained and integrated with any new developments.

Modern public spaces around the town centre are also part of the scheme and car parks would be multi-level to free up land for further developments.

There are also plans to create a network of green spaces between Fens Pool and Saltwells Nature Reserve.

As part of the scheme, developers will be encouraged to focus on businesses such as restaurants and cafes which will attract people during the day.

Dudley Council leader Councillor Les Jones said the aim was to ensure that homes, shops and employment were designed to meet the needs of residents.

"They have researched the charity to get an understanding of their work before starting the design process.

"Their work is always really impressive and I'm sure this charity will be really pleased."

Rocking for charity

A DUDLEY band are expecting a sell-out for a charity concert. Recollection are headlining the Charity Evening to raise for funds for cancer patients at Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital at Wordsley School on Saturday, March 31 with a mixture of rock and pop. Tickets cost £5. Call 01384 237603 to book.

Design-look for gardens

DESIGNERS have been brought in to landscape the gardens of two new homes in Dudley. Lovell house-builders commissioned the designers to work at the Priory Park site, Tipton Road.

Stocking up on horrible history



PRESENTATIONS assistant Amy Hickman with Archie Oliver and Maddison Smart, from St Kenelm's CoFE Primary School, during their visit to Dudley Castle and Zoo

SCHOOLCHILDREN were given an insight into Tudor life during a visit to Dudley Castle.

A group of 28 youngsters from St Kenelm's CoFE Primary School in Romsey, Halesowen, took part in a Horrible History workshop.

Run by Dudley Zoo staff, the session taught the six and seven year olds about the smells, illnesses and potions of the era.

They were also given the opportunity to try on Tudor-style clothes and learn more about food, drink and armour.

Wonderful

The session took place in the undercroft of the 11th century castle in the grounds of the zoo.

Class teacher Ellie Stening said: "We had a wonderful day."

"The children learned an awful lot and really enjoyed themselves."

"They loved hearing about all of the gory details about punishments for crimes during the period."

"The children are doing a topic this term about knights and castles so it has fitted in quite nicely."

Detailed plan for zoo with council

DETAILED plans for a restoration project for four historic buildings at Dudley Zoo including its iconic wave entrance have been lodged with the council.

Bosses at the attraction have submitted an application for listed building planning consent for the Tecton structures to be returned to their former glory with the help of lottery cash.

As well as the entrance, the bear ravine, a kiosk and the former Station Cafe, which is now used as the Safari Shop, will also be refurbished under the scheme.

The Tectons, which date back to 1937, were made using pre-stressed concrete, and architects were able to mould it to create attractive enclosures to fit in with the surrounding landscape and the steepness of the Castle Hill site.

But time has taken its toll on the structures and now repairs are needed to help the zoo continue to use some of the buildings.

The attraction has been granted Heritage Lottery funding of £1.15 million for the work. The Zoo's chairlift will also be restored as part of the project.

Under the plans submitted to Dudley Council, the entrance, which is used only during the busy summer months, will be brought back into use, offering access through the historic gateway from Castle Hill into the proposed new entrance plaza.

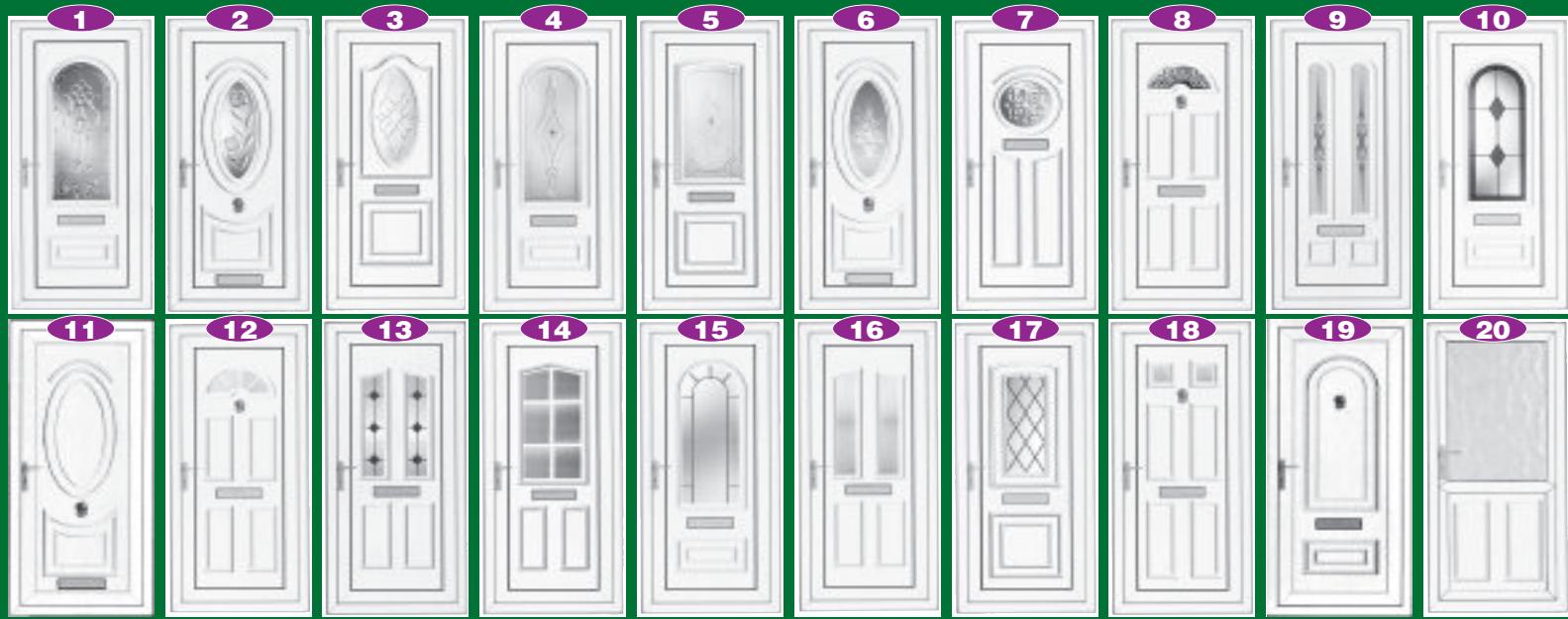
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CLUB NEWS

Speaker at AGM from the RSPB

DUDLEY SOUTH LADIES LUNCHEON CLUB

CHAIRMAN Jean Corns welcomed 38 members and one visitor to lunch at the Kingfisher Hotel, Wall Heath for the AGM and to hear speaker John Clews from the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

After many years of loyal service, Jean felt it was time to step down as chairman and was pleased to say that Mrs Mary Jones would be taking the helm in future.

Mary had also been a member and served on the committee for years and was delighted to take on the role. Jean was presented with a flower arrangement to show members' appreciation.

Mr Clews illustrated his talk about the worrying decline in our bird population. His excellent talk stimulated lots of questions.

The next luncheon will be on April 13 with Ray Sturdy describing the Swinging 60s.

May's meeting will feature Harry Hunt, a photographer, with music and in June the meeting will be special to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee with Shirley Tart the Royal correspondent from the Express & Star.

On June 15 June a coach outing has been booked to Shrewsbury with a stop en route at Percy Thrower's Garden Centre for coffee, and in November a trip to Touchwood Shopping Centre, Solihull.

Daffodils in bloom for polio campaign



Ken Thomas presents a certificate of merit to Alder Coppice School pupils

IN NOVEMBER of last year the Rotary Club of Sedgley and Wombourne presented

a number of daffodil bulbs to local schools as part of their "Eradicate Polio" publicity pro-

gramme.

The children potted up the bulbs and have been looking after them over the winter months. The bulbs are now in bloom and the children are giving the bowls of flowers to residents of local care homes.

Rotarian Ken Thomas presented a certifi-

ROTARY CLUB OF SEDGLEY & WOMBOURNE

cate of merit to the children of Alder Coppice School thanking them for their help in promoting the campaign.

The flowering of the daffodils has coincided with the news that due to the vaccination project led by the Rotary Club, India has been declared free from polio this year for the first time in its recorded history.

Gift as Freda steps down

TRYSULL & SEISDON WI

THE March meeting was the AGM. The annual reports were read out, then president Sue Cotterell announced the committee.

Freda Perks is stepping down and was presented with a small gift for her hard work. Liz Gilson and Claire Preece have been welcomed onto the committee.

Speaker for the evening

bound courses and said how rewarding it is to watch them grow in confidence. His house has always been home to a variety of pets.

Mary Farquharson won the competition, a childhood photo. At the April 12 meeting, at 7.30pm at Trysull village hall, the competition is a thimble and the talk by the Bantock Boggers.

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Local family business achieves prestigious award of Excellence from Vauxhall

A family run business in the Dudley Market Area consisting of Dudley Motor Company, T Wall Garages, Halesowen Motor House and Stourbridge Motor House has been awarded the prestigious accolade as **Winners of the Vauxhall Chairman's Award for Excellence 2011**.

Achievement

To achieve this honour the group had to meet the high standards required by Vauxhall in 4 main areas including high scores in customer surveys for the sales and service departments, cementing what the family run business has been striving to achieve for nearly 60 years, excellent standards in **customer satisfaction where personal service counts**.

Managing Director, Mr Stuart Grieveson commented, "my family has been in the car business for nearly 60 years, and we are proud of our recognition from Vauxhall. We have always strived for high standards and values from our staff so that it is passed on to our customers. A large percentage of the staff have

**Son Oliver Grieveson**

Forward Thinking has always defined Vauxhall as a company and it remains their energy and driving force today. Forward Thinking means always looking to the future for a better way. Making environmentally friendly cars that are fun to drive. It means never ceasing in their search for excellence. It means focusing not on their competitors, but on their customers. And it is central to their belief that the best is always yet to come.

The family business started in transport over 100 years ago and they will be celebrating another important landmark in 2013 when Worcester Carsales Limited has been supplying cars to the locality for 60 years.

**Son Stephen Grieveson****Managing Director Mr Grieveson and Daughter Alexandra**

been with the group for some years, a few of them celebrating over 25 years and I think this is reflected with our loyal customers."

Mr Grieveson's children also have an active part in running the business ensuring the high standards of customer care are continued in the future.

Forward thinking

While Vauxhall's roots in the earliest days of automobile development give them plenty to celebrate, their success has always been founded on looking forward rather than back. And it was in recognising the automobile's potential to provide mobility for all that allowed them to flourish where so many of motoring's pioneer names fell by the wayside.

thechronicle**COMPETITION**

Chance to pick up a penguin pass

LOVE penguins? Then would you love to win a family ticket to see the new penguin cove at West Midland Safari Park?

Now that West Midland Safari Park is fully open for summer we have 40 fantastic family tickets to be won to see these delightful little penguins and a whole lot more. As well as visiting the four-mile self-drive safari with its collection of animals from all over the world, there are some marvellous attractions to visit on foot, too.

Penguin Cove, naturally, is the first to explore. Found in Discovery Trail with its variety of splendid all-weather attractions like Twilight Cave; Mark O'Shea's Reptile World, Creepy Crawlies, Se aquarium and Sea Lion Show, the all-new penguin exhibit is taking centre stage.

Glimpse

See these delightful little animals make their summertime debut



See these delightful little animals make their summertime debut

Village. The exhibit has glass walls to allow the perfect viewing opportunity of these highly interesting and often amusing little animals.

There's Hippo Lakes, home to the largest family group hippo in the country and the Safari Express train ride that takes the direct route from the car park to the Amusement Area, which is packed with all kinds of fun rides and attractions.

These include some rides like the Black Fly, Twister, Wild River Rafting, Rhinocaster, Zambezi Water Splash and Venom.

Then, there's an African themed interactive village that comes complete with village 'huts' and an African home that allows visitors to peek behind the scenes to catch a glimpse of what life could be like in an African Village.

There are also plenty of friendly animal encounters that include the opportunity to feed some of the Somali sheep, Pygmy goats and Cameroon sheep.

Last but not least, is Meerkat Mayhem, located within the African

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Simply answer the following question.

Which date in November does West Midland Safari Park close for winter?

a) 1st b) 2nd c) 3rd

Send answer on a postcard with your name, address and contact number to Safari Park competition, Chronicle series (editorial), 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES. Closing date: Thursday, March 29. Usual rules apply. Editor's decision is final.

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Chloe is first apprentice at company in 224 years

A STUDENT has become the first apprentice taken on in the 224-year history of a Birmingham accountancy firm.

Chloe Leddington, aged 19 and from Oldbury, has joined Chantrey Vellacott DFK and will work towards an apprenticeship in business administration over the next 12 months.

She will spend one day a week studying at Halesowen College during the scheme and is one of 84 apprentices at the college who will also be in full-time employment.

"I was excited about the opportunity – but being the first apprentice in the company's history only makes it more special," the former Hagley RC High School student said.

"I'd considered studying history at university, but when I found about this opportunity I knew straight away I had to take it."

"I've been made to feel really welcome by everyone and am looking forward to building up my experience over the next 12 months and progressing within the company."

Delighted

Nick Simkins, partner at Chantrey Vellacott DFK, said further apprenticeships could also be launched at the firm's 10 offices across the Midlands and the South East.

"We are delighted Chloe has joined our team in Birmingham and in doing so become Chantrey Vellacott DFK's first ever apprentice," he said.

"Chloe has made a really promising start to her career with us and we look forward to helping play a part in her development and her becoming an important member of our team in the Midlands."

"We'd been considering taking on an apprentice for a while now and are pleased to have struck up an excellent working partnership with Emma Ball at Halesowen College as she helped make the process extremely easy."



Nick Simkins, partner at Chantrey Vellacott DFK in Birmingham, with Emma Ball, training consultant at Halesowen College and the firm's first apprentice Chloe Leddington, right

Workers forfeit £300,000 in pension strike action

COUNCIL staff and teachers in Dudley forfeited almost £300,000 in wages from last November's public sector strikes over pension reform.

A Freedom of Information request showed that Dudley contributed a large proportion of the £2 million saved in pay across the Black Country and Staffordshire, which will now be used by councils to offset spending cuts.

Staff were given two months to come up with other reasons why they might not have been in work on the day of the biggest public sector

strike in more than 80 years, which is why the figures have only now been released.

More than 1,500 council workers in Dudley forfeited £135,008, while striking teachers were docked £148,816 in pay, coming to £283,824 in total.

In the strikes, which took place on November 30, hospitals had to use senior managers and back office workers on reception desks, while striking police civilian staff put pressure on control rooms, detention suites and general inquiries.

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Gentleman Songsters John Smith (front), Roy Brewer, Steve Rathbone, Bill Jones, Mike Green and Trevor Morgan rehearse with youngsters at Mount Pleasant Primary School, Quarry Bank

Voices lifted for choir's biggest concert of year

A POPULAR choir is getting ready to take to the stage for its traditional spring concert to raise funds for charity.

Kingswinford's Gentleman Songsters will host the event at Dudley Concert Hall, in St James Road, on March 24.

They will be joined for the evening by members of Holborne Brass ensemble who will perform a selection of classic tunes. But the group uses different and

unexpected styles when playing the music to put a new spin on well-known songs.

Members of the Mount Pleasant Primary School Choir, Quarry Bank, will also perform at the event.

Youngsters have been working with members of the Gentleman Songsters to rehearse for their big performance.

The songsters' will also perform their popular blend of classic songs and tunes from the musicals at the event.

Tickets are £10 and are available on

01384 838863 or by calling Dudley Box Office on 01384 812812.

The spring concert is one of the choir's biggest events of the year and proceeds will be donated to charity.

Spokesman for the choir Mike Green said: "We are really looking forward to the concert and it will be great to perform with Mount Pleasant choir and Holborne Brass.

"It will be a varied and exciting programme of music."

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The Limelight Cinema before it was moved to the Black Country Living Museum



An old picture of the how the Limelight used to look



John Revill's daughter Maud inside the closed down Limelight Cinema



The Limelight which had been run by the Revill family



The Limelight as it stands today at the museum and which has regular showings of silent classics

Keeping the classics of silent era in limelight

DUE to the release of Oscar-winning film *The Artist* silent films have been making a big noise with moviegoers, leaving audiences clamoring for more.

In the early days of cinema Charlie Chaplin comedies, feature-length westerns and cliff-hanging serials were all on the 1921 playlist at Mr John Revill's Limelight Cinema, Hart's Hill and is now preserved as one of the exhibits at the Black Country Living Museum.

The family-run cinema offered tickets for tuppence ha'penny and fivepenny a show.

On Saturday mornings locals would queue outside the Limelight to buy their penny tickets for the children's matinee.

Mr Revill built the Limelight Cinema next to his house, in his spare time, at a cost of £130.

MEMORY LANE

by The Black Country Living Museum's Fiona Carding

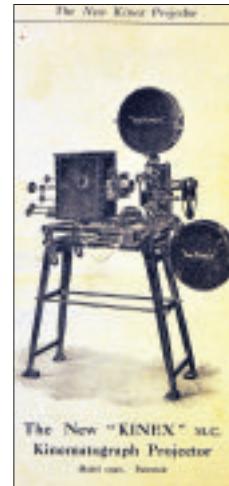
Tucked away behind a row of houses in Vine Street, the cinema brought in an extra £2 a week on top of Mr Revill's regular income as an engineer at Cartwright & Cradock.

Andrew Lovett, Director and Chief Executive of Black Country Living Museum said: "All the family would be involved. Mrs Revill sold the tickets, Mr Revill and nephew Leslie Ball operated the projectors and eldest daughter, Maud, provided the soundtrack - using a wind-up gramophone."

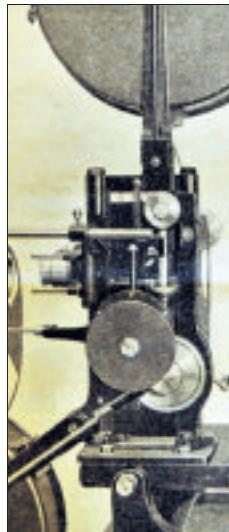
In 1926 Mr Revill extended the cinema, installing 18 tip-up seats and two gas radiators to provide a little extra comfort. The projection room was enlarged and the two old projectors traded in for two Kamm models, a Motiograph and an Ememann.

In 1927 Warner Brothers released *The Jazz Singer* which was regarded as the first of the talkies. The writing was on the wall for the Limelight cinema. In 1929 profits fell and by June of that year the Limelight cinema had made losses of more than £12. Luxury cinemas had opened in Dudley and Brierley Hill, and after a disastrous first week in July John Revill closed the doors on the Limelight.

BCLM bought the cinema in August 1993 and its new home closely resembles the original Hart's Hill setting. The interior has been refitted as closely as possible to how it looked after the 1926 extension was built. The original internal colour scheme has been reapplied and replica benches created.



An industry pamphlet showing a projector from the 1920s



The pamphlet showing details of one of the latest projectors

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Scraping is a good start – and a good way to get the blood flowing

HOMES & GARDENS



Painting can be a good way to exercise

Spring into action and get jobs done

SPRING is in the air – but as thoughts turn to days out and even holidays, don't forget that now is a great time to tackle the jobs that you've been putting off during the winter.

And although it may seem perverse, now is a good time to get ready for next winter!

So spring into action, improve your home – and don't forget that a bit of DIY can also be great exercise!

Here are some ways to get those DIY jobs done, get the blood flowing, and save money too – an all-round winning combination.

Start by stripping wallpaper. Using a scraper is a sure way to get the pulse racing. But make it easier for yourself by giving the old paper a good soak first. An electric wallpaper stripper will help too. It's like a big kettle and creates lots of steam.

Paint your walls. Like using a scraper, moving a paint roller up and down will get the heart beating.

Paint your woodwork. Now the light is better and you can see what you're doing, a splash of paint will brighten up your home quickly and easily.

Sanding is vigorous work, and you

won't get a good finish if you don't sand thoroughly. So put your back into it and you'll benefit in more ways than one. And sanded and varnished floorboards will look bright and modern.

Replace the silicone seal around the bath or shower. It will make the bathroom look a lot brighter and neater,

and it's a quick job. Remember though that silicone seal round a bath, you need to fill it with water.

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HOMES & GARDENS

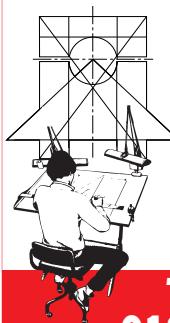
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Spaghetti Western Orchestra, Town Hall, Birmingham

THIS five-piece jazz combo from Australia create fairly faithful versions of the moody movie music by Ennio Morricone for such Italian-made westerns as *For A Few Dollars More* and *The Good The Bad And The Ugly*.

They have a sense of fun, each musician acting as a western character (the vibes player is more like John Belushi) and providing movie sound effects using such props as corn flakes (footsteps) and Bubble Wrap (crackling camp fire). They utilise a range of strange instruments including the eerie sounding Theremin, played by waving hands. The combination of good humour and musicianship won a standing ovation and the SWO return by public demand to the Town Hall on May 23. **Leon Burakowski**

Every shade of green

The Dubliners

Town Hall, Birmingham
A packed Town Hall, in party mood because it was St Patrick's Day, gave Barney McKenna, John Sheahan, Sean Cannon, Eamonn Campbell and Patsy Watchorn a roof-lifting welcome. Into more than two hours they packed old favourites such as *Seven Drunken Nights*, *Dirty Ol' Town and Rare Oul Times* with poems and videos paying tributes to other founder members no longer with us. The audience, swathed in what seemed like 40 shades of green, lapped it up. **Danny Farragher**

Please Cameron can we have some more Oliver!

Oliver! Birmingham Hippodrome

CONSIDER yourself well in if you've got tickets for Oliver in Brum because this rollicking, rumbustious production from Cameron Mackintosh will be the hottest ticket in town.

The West End producer was a child when he sat spellbound through the original 1960 production of Lionel Bart's musical, based on Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens, and he has lavished West End production values with big cast and impressive sets on this touring version of the last London revival.

Credit to TV viewers' favourite Jodie Prenger but this production has surely found a classic Nancy in Samantha Barks (who was third in the TV Nancy search I'd Do Anything). A couple of years experience including a stint in Les Mis has transformed this raven-haired youngster into an impressive leading lady. Radiating determination and vulnerability, her rendition of As Long As He Needs Me was a showstopper.

Neil Morrissey is no singer but turned that to his advantage as Fagin, half-talking his witty lines for You've Got To Pick A Pocket Or Two and Reviewing The Situation. One flaw - this production has a spot in which the celeb playing Fagin muses aloud to the audience. A

Carol Emerald,
Symphony Hall

THE lady in red began her first UK tour with a standing ovation and folks dancing in the aisles after nearly two hours of scintillating, finger-popping jazz-pop.

Backed by a band including a brass section and vinyl-scratching DJ, the Dutch singer - who became a star by accident when demo recording Back It Up turned into a hit - was the epitome of retro cool from the opening salvo of You Don't Love Me and Riviera Life.

There were costume changes, the return of her trademark red flower in the hair, new single Dr Wanna Do and finale A Night Like This. The encore included a gorgeous version of Dream A Little Dream Of Me.



A scene from *Oliver!* with Samantha Barks as Nancy

"can we fix it" comment got an easy laugh but this nod to Morrissey's Bob The Builder alter-ego shattered the illusion in an atmospheric production.

Urchins

The street urchins were an adorable mob. Young Harry Polden was a demure but strong-voiced Oliver whilst Midland lad Max Greishbach was the archetypal sassy Artful Dodger. Iain Fletcher was a seriously scary vicious Bill Sykes, complete with bulldog, and there was a superb cast of grotesque Dickensian characters, amongst them Suzi

Chard's monstrous Widow Corney and CJ Johnson's cadaverous Mrs Sowerberry.

Director Laurence Connor's production does the late Lionel Bart's songs justice in a show that teams with life like a Cockney tenement or a London street, thanks to Matthew Bourne's frenetic, sometimes saucy, choreography.

Oliver will leave you wanting more.

It continues at the Hippodrome to April 21. Brian Conley takes over as Fagin and Cat Simmons as Nancy from April 3.

Leon Burakowski

Disney's ice magic

Disney On Ice: Princesses and Heroes, NIA

A MAGICAL show aimed squarely at little princesses delivered a fairy-dusted evening of Disney dreams come true at the NIA.

But there were more empty seats than previous years, suggesting magic and money is in short supply for many financially-squeezed Midlands families.

Feld Entertainment delivered a spectacular show introduced by Mickey and Minnie Mouse as Tinkerbell took us on a two-hour tour of Disney's great romantic moments with a soundtrack of favourite songs.

Snow White, Belle, Ariel, Jasmine, Aurora, Cinderella and more recent princesses Tiana and Rapunzel saw their dreams come true (always thanks to a handsome hero). The ice dancing was excellent - especially the opening Aladdin section and Be My Guest spectacle - as was the fire-breathing dragon and Tinkerbell's glittering finale.

Leon Burakowski

A walloping good show

Half A Sixpence, Wolverhampton Grand

ENERGY and enthusiasm delivered a flash, bang, wallop of a show for Wolverhampton Musical Comedy Company at the Grand.

Performing a new version of Half A Sixpence, this company certainly had the wow factor. Tyne Harris gave a strong performance as Kipps, Claudia Gilmour was a feisty Ann delivering perfect vocals and Nicholas Sullivan played wonderfully over the top as Chitterlow.

Lindsey Grant was a delectable Helen and there was good support from Ben Jones's distinctive gentleman, Anne Palmer's eccentric matrarch and Philip Drinkwater as overbearing owner of the shop. An enthusiastic chorus and slick dancing give this production plenty of colour.

Also deserving credit were Pascale Rollings, Kimberley Robinson, Holly Stringfellow, Jack Callaghan, Tom Winfield and David Walters.

Les Jowett

Feather has fans tickled

Birds of a Feather, Wolverhampton Grand
THE reunion of the original Essex girls, 13 years since their final TV appearance, lives up to expectations for fans of the 1990s sit-com.

Shown on BBC1 from 1989 to 1998, Birds of a Feather attracted 20 million viewers. No surprise that it had a near full house at the Grand on Monday and is doing brisk business all week (its on to Saturday).

Within five minutes of curtain-up it was like sisters Sharon and Tracey had never been away. They were bickering in that style of cutting banter so neatly scripted by the show creators Laurence Marks and Maurice Gran, though most of the dialogue for this new play comes from fellow Feather scripters Gary Lawson and John Phelps.

So how has life treated Sharon Theodolopodoulo and Tracey Stubbs in the past decade and a half? Well, much the same. Both husbands got banged up again. Meanwhile, Sharon (played by the new slimline Pauline Quirke) remains as lazy as ever, whilst Tracey (Linda Robson) mollycoddles teenaged son Travis (born in the last TV episode). He was played by her real life son Louis Dunford. At other performances it's Pauline Quirke's son Charlie.

As Doreen, Lesley Joseph added the vital final ingredient to make the old chemistry work in a play that felt like an extended TV episode, albeit with some blurry images projected onto the stage curtain and rather over-loud music. **LB**

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ANGIE 36, likes cosy nights in/out, country walks, sensible, caring, loyal, spiritual, seeks male to share life with. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 366885 §

39YR old single female, hurt in past, animal lover, likes most things, seeking genuine man for relationship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 366887 §

I'M attractive, very tactile with an hourglass figure, looking for fun and good times. Can you help? Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 368889 §

MANDY 36, size 10, looking for relationship with open-minded man. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 360317 §

CURVY red haired female, been hurt in the past seeks older male to buy her flowers and mend her broken heart. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 377432 §

SHARON 32, attractive black single mum of one, very tactile and WLTM male 45-65yrs for fun meets. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 376565 §

SALLY blonde looking for fun and mutually attentive relationship with male 35 plus. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 38559 §

DIVORCED very lonely single mum, young looking, slim, attractive, WLTM similar male for companionship. Age/looks/Status unimportant. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 370023 §

ANNA 29y old nurse, 6ft curly auburn beauty, likes cosy nights in, genuinely seeking older, well built male to look after, 40-69yrs. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 375139 §

STACEY young 20y old looking for fun. Call me to find out more. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 382091 §

VERY attractive 18y old fitness instructor looking to burn some extra calories with older experienced male who thinks he can keep up, 30-60. ACA. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 364311 §

RACHAEL 49yrs young slim, caring, sincere and fun loving, WLTM similar male with GSOH for mutual companionship, perhaps more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 381343 §

LITTLE bit nice and definitely a little bit naughty! Imaginative curly blonde seeks male for kisses and cuddles. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 363428 §

JENNIFER blue eyed cuddly independent female, loves countryside, animals, cooking, WLTM older male to spoil and look after. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 378481 §

SARAH 38, slim, nice looking, tactile, no ties, WLTM kind, loving male to enjoy affectionate relationship. Any age/looks. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 378483 §

SLIM professional, attractive, amiable lady, seeks genuine, articulate, professional gent, 55 plus with GSOH, who enjoys the good things in life. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 386615 §

SUZANNE lonely beautiful classy French lady looking for happy decent reliable man for lots of tlc and good looks. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 378495 §

JEANINE 40yrs, very cute petite artistic female who has a real passion for life, WLTM similarly male for tactile LTR, 40-55yrs. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 383718 §

MICHELLE blonde blue eyed happy female, loves heels and being feminine, OHAC, self sufficient, looking for male for long term romance and more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 382089 §

CATHY good looking Brunette with a real passion for life, seeking male for happy times, dates, chats, romance and more, pls call. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 385603 §

BETTY fuller figured black female, 26, body confident, affectionate, WLTM older chocolate loving male for daytime meets. Any status. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 377511 §

JANE 46, single num, N/S, romantic, likes dancing, nights out, music, seeking male, 40-50 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 363277 §

LOUISA looking for lovely, young male, 20-30s, easygoing for fun. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 380469

DAWN attractive, slim female, 45, N/S, ties, WLTM tall, fit male with get up and go attitude towards life. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 375825 §

JANE 46, single num, N/S, romantic, likes dancing, nights out, music, seeking male, 40-50 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 380591 §

LOUISA looking for lovely, young male, 20-30s, easygoing for fun. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 380469

RACHEL 38, slim, attractive, works full time, sees sensitive, funny gent for friendship, companionship, hopefully relationship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 375929 §

FEMALE looking for gent, 65-70, caring, loving and independent. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 378295 §

LOUISE 43, 5ft 5ins, medium build. GSOH, kind, caring, honest, genuine, loving, WLTM male, 43-55 with similar qualities for LTR. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 376165 §

JANICE attractive female, 50, size 12-14, seeks younger gent, 40-50 for fun. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 376115 §

FARMER'S granddaughter, OHAC, stunningly attractive, respectable, sincere, WLTM countryman/bachelor, 48-62, 5ft 9ins plus, genuine, uncomplicated with GSOH and TLC. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 378204

LOUISE 35, dark hair, blue eyes, attractive ex air hostess, looking for fun with older male for romantic nights in and more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 381341 §

LYNNE 37 single mum, petite slim and very pretty, seeking caring funny guy to be with and become my Mr Wonderful. Dads welcome. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 386633 §

JOY 36 petite medium build, blue eyes, loves romantic walks, meals out/in. WLTM male 30-45 for meets. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 386623 §

OPTIMIST Shropshire lass, slim, gorgeous, seeks good looking gent, 40-50 with GSOH. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 362033

PAULINE attractive petite nurse, loves evenings in/out, looking for honest male to share loving friendship and good times. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 379535 §

SHARON 37, social, WLTM male who likes good conversation, theatre, keeping fit and most of all who will appreciate a real woman. ACA. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 381345 §

LOVING caring young 67y old female, 5ft 2ins, slim size 12, brown hair, likes meals out, GSOH, smoker, seeks slim, smart male with GSOH, 58-62. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 364651 §

FEMALE looking for stocky male, 50-60 to share a happy life. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 386169 §

WIDOW genuine, 70, kind, caring, N/S, seeks male for friendship, relationship, holidays and outings. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 303133

KIND romantic, loving lady, 43, slight disability, seeks genuine male for romance. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 385305

TRISHA 50, attractive, black, outgoing, thoughtful, caring, understanding, likes holidays, seeks similar loving gent. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 383325 §

FUN loving lady, outgoing, honest, caring, likes socialising, seeks older male, 50-70. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 383295 §

SINGLE mum, 32, children, sees fun loving male with GSOH. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 382595 §

SLIM 32yr old blonde, kind, caring, good listener, honest, likes to have fun, sees male. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 339373 §

LONG haired blonde, 37, enjoys meals out but would love to cook a romantic meal for the man of her dreams. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 361076 §

DAWN attractive, slim female, 45, N/S, ties, WLTM tall, fit male with get up and go attitude towards life. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 382073 §

JANE 46, single num, N/S, romantic, likes dancing, nights out, music, seeking male, 40-50 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 316619

HOLLY 25, slim, attractive, Brunette, likes gym, WLTM nice, sensitive male of similar age for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 380851 §

SHAPELY attractive, light skinned black female, 39, seeks attractive, fit, male, 30's, builder type, tanned, rugged for relationship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 321512

VANESSA fun loving single mum, 5ft 4ins, brown eyes, seeks kind, loving, genuine male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 304135 §

RACHEL 34, brown hair, blue eyes, slim, curvy, professional, likes cinema, walks, socialising, meals out, pubs, pool, seeks similar male. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 262978

DIONNE 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, medium build, 42, single mum, seeks male. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 376801

CLARE good looking, beautiful blonde, seeks male for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 385087 §

PATRICIA 5ft 5ins, red hair, blue eyes, likes nights out, meals, clubs, seeking nice young man who is kind, generous to look after me. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 378207 §

KATHY caring lady 60, medium build, smoker, seeks caring, smart male 55-65 for companionship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 374773 §

BLACK female, medium build, mother of two, WLTM lively gent, 34-40, N/S with GSOH for fun. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 148702

WIDOWED lady 70's, likes countryside, travel, seaside, seeks nice gent to spend time with. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 362993

BLONDE tanned female, trendy, 46, GSOH, likes walks, pubs, nights in, seeks male. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 384852 §

SUE attractive, slim, 50's, green eyes, varied interests, trendy, OHAC, seeks special guy. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 180587

28YR old blonde, seeks fun loving, adventurous male for relationship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 380918 §

FEMININE caring, young, mid 60's N/S woman, varied interests, seeks genuine, loyal male of similar age to share togetherness and LTR. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 380918 §

COVENTRY male, single, 6ft 1ins, 42, caring, GSOH, loves animals, Tal Chai, seeks female, 20-55, single mums ok, any nationality for nice times in/out. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 384677

MALE 45, wants pillion passenger for Triumph Tiger, rides out, base meetings and tours, are you up for it? Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 384212 §

SOLIHULL genuine, professional gent, 60's, N/S, slim, tall, friendly, kind, seeks lady 54-65 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 387393

MATURE male, 45, wants pillion passenger for Triumph Tiger, rides out, base meetings and tours, are you up for it? Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 384212 §

MALE 40, strong needs, seeks similar lady for regular evening/weekend meetings. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 384219 §

MATURE male, 45, wants pillion passenger for Triumph Tiger, rides out, base meetings and tours, are you up for it? Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 384219 §

MALE 40, strong needs, seeks similar lady for regular evening/weekend meetings. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 384219 §

MALE 30, 5ft 8ins, medium build, short hair, GSOH, seeks female, 50-60 to share happiness and life with. Tipton. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 386629

60'S MALE, medium build, fit, high drive, seeks West Midlands lady who needs occasional male evening/weekend company. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 381307

PAUL, 60, medium build, fit, virile, with strong needs, WLTM West Midland lady for regular mutual pleasure. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 374821

SINGLE male, 60, WLTM local lad with strong physical needs for regular contact with no commitment initially. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 377459 ppp

THOUGHTFUL adventurous, attractive guy, 37, OHAC, likes nights out/looks attractive girl with similar interests. Single mum welcome. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 360663 §

TALL good looking guy 48, GSOH, honest, seeks open-minded, mature female for fun only relationship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 385653 §

DENNIS 36, white, slim, dark hair, enjoys life, friendly, many interests, seeks female for friendship and more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 386539 §

DANIEL 49, tall, attractive, GSOH, seeks lady for fun relationship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 382559

ATTRACTIVE tall honest guy, 48, polite, respectful with GSOH, seeks female for fun relationship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 371823

PAUL 63, tall, attractive, fit, normal, lonely, likes DIY, travel, nights out, seeks female to care for and turn him around. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 386417 §

FRIENDLY 34y old white guy looking for fun. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 389990 §

MARK 49, affectionate, easygoing, caring, fun loving, seeking similar female. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 373223

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Choice**BBC1****BBC2****ITV1****Channel 4****Channel 5****Digital****HOW GOD MADE THE ENGLISH**

BBC2, 8.20pm

For a long time, received wisdom suggested that God had a beard, was in His late fifties, lived in the Cotswolds and drank Earl Grey. The English have long claimed the supreme being as their own. Well, this new documentary series may or may not dissuade the masses from embracing that long-held belief. It seems the English may not have as much in common with God as they had hoped. In episode two, A Tolerant Nation?, Diarmaid MacCulloch, presenter of the award-winning series A History of Christianity, challenges the commonly held assumption that the English are historically exceptionally tolerant.

6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 The Little Paris Kitchen: Cooking with Rachel Khoo. (R) 12.00 BBC News: Regional News; Weather. 12.15 Football Focus. 1.00 Formula 1: Malaysian Grand Prix Qualifying Highlights. 2.15 John Bishop's Sport Relief Hell. (R) 3.15 Sport Relief 2012: The Best Bits. 4.30 Final Score. 5.10 BBC News: Regional News; Weather. 5.30 A Question of Sport: Extra Time.

6.00 Winter Wipeout Celebrity Special. Connie Fisher, Eddie 'the Eagle' Edwards and Tony Mortimer tackle the course.

7.00 The Voice UK. New series. Holly Willoughby and Reggie Yates co-host this singing contest, in which Tom Jones, Jessie J, Will.i.am and Danny O'Donoghue seek out the nation's best vocal talent.

8.20 The National Lottery: In It To Win It. Quiz show, hosted by Dale Winton. Includes the Lotto and Thunderball draws.

9.10 Casualty. The investigation into the allegation of assault made against Sam begins.

10.00 BBC News: Weather. 10.20 Match of the Day. Including highlights of Chelsea v Tottenham Hotspur; National Lottery Update.

11.45 The Football League Show. Highlights of today's games in the Championship, League One and League Two.

2.00 (BST) Weatherview. 2.05 BBC News.

6.00 Beebbies. 7.05 CBBC. 12.00 Film: Anchors Aweigh. (1945) Musical, starring Frank Sinatra and Gene Kelly. 2.15 Film: Camelot. (1967) Musical, starring Richard Harris. 5.05 Escape to the Country. (R) 5.50 Flog It!

6.50 Dad's Army. (R) 7.20 The Story of Light Entertainment. Stephen Fry presents a history of music programmes, from their roots in variety performances to today's popular shows. Includes a contribution by Simon Cowell.

8.20 How God Made the English. Diarmaid MacCulloch scrutinises England's reputation as a tolerant nation, challenging the commonly held view that the trait evolved as a result of the Enlightenment.

9.20 FILM: Bright Star. (2009) Premiere. Biopic telling the story of 19th-century poet John Keats' three-year relationship with neighbour Fanny Browne. Starring Ben Whishaw, Abbie Cornish and Paul Schneider.

11.10 The Sarah Millican Television Programme. Sarah talks about food and survival programmes, with Charley Boorman and Olly Smith. (R)

11.40 FILM: Syncopation, New York. (2008) Premiere. Drama, starring Philip Seymour Hoffman.

2.40 Film: (BST) Caramel. (2007) Premiere. Comedy, starring Nadine Labaki. 4.10 Close.

6.00 CITV: Mini CITV. 7.25 CITV. 9.25 ITV News. 9.30 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. 10.25 The This Morning. Saturday. 12.25 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 1.25 ITV News: Weather. 1.40 The Planet's Funniest Animals. (R) 1.55 Film: The Burbs. (1989) Black comedy, starring Tom Hanks. 3.45 Film: Land of the Lost. (2009) Premiere. Comedy adventure, starring Will Ferrell. 5.30 Regional News; Weather. 5.45 ITV News; Weather.

6.00 New You've Been Framed! Harry Hill narrates camcorder calamities.

6.30 All Star Family Fortunes.

7.30 Harry Hill's TV Burp. The funnyman presents the final Burp in the present run. Last in the series.

8.00 Britain's Got Talent. New series. Ant and Dec kick off the sixth season of the talent show, with new judges David Williams and Alesha Dixon joining Amanda Holden and Simon Cowell on the panel.

9.20 Take Me Out. Another batch of hopefuls takes part.

10.20 The Jonathan Ross Show. With Simon Cowell, David Williams, Danny DeVito, Dara O Briain and Labrinth.

Last in the series.

11.20 ITV News: Weather. 11.35 The Cube. A sales assistant and a retired theatre worker take part. Last in the series. (R)

12.30 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 3.00 (BST) In Plain Sight. (R) 3.45 ITV Nightshift. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 Road to London 2012: Paralympics Extra. The British wheelchair rugby team prepares for the Games. (R) 7.30 The Grid. 7.55 The Morning Line. 8.55 T4: Koko Pop. 9.25 T4: The Pirates! An Adventure with Scientists! T4: Movie Special. 9.55 T4: The Album Chart Show Introduces: Emeli Sande. (R)

10.15 T4: Charlie's Angels. 11.15 T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.45 T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) 12.15 T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R)

12.40 NCIS. The team members travel to LA to work with another NCIS team on an investigation that escalates into a high-priority case, and Tony begins to pry into Ziva's life. (R)

6.20 Come Dine with Me. Matt Wilcox hosts the final dinner party in Stoke-on-Trent. (R)

6.50 4th Birthday.

7.25 Channel 4 News. River Cottage Veg. Cooking with summer garden vegetables. (R)

8.20 Big Fat Gypsy Weddings. The battle of Dale Farm. (R)

9.20 The Million Pound Drop Live. New series.

Davina McCall returns with the high-pressure quiz show. Rochelle Wiseman and Mollie King from the Saturdays join members of the public as they compete to win £1 million.

11.05 FILM: Jennifer's Body. (2009) Premiere. Horror, starring Megan Fox.

2.00 Film: (BST) The Vault of Horror. (1973) Horror anthology, starring Daniel Massey. 3.30 Reaper. (R) 4.10 I Hate That Smile. (R) 4.15 Countdown. (R) 5.00 Film: Railroaded. (1947) Thriller, starring John Ireland.

6.00 Milkshake! 10.00 Inside Hollywood. (R) 10.05 The Hunger Games: Movie Special. 10.35 Building the Super Tower: Megastuctures. (R) 11.35 Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers. (R) 12.40 Film: Short Circuit 2. (1988) 2.45 Film: Contact. (1997) Sci-fi drama, starring Jodie Foster. 5.25 Film: Daddy Day Care. (2003) Family comedy, starring Eddie Murphy.

7.20 5 News Weekend.

7.25 NCIS. Part one of two. The agents travel to LA to work with another NCIS team on an investigation that escalates into a high-priority case, and Tony begins to pry into Ziva's life. (R)

8.10 NCIS. The team members are surprised when Gibbs asks Tony's father to join them on a murder investigation. Guest starring Robert Wagner. (R)

9.00 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. Hodges and Wendy attend a sci-fi convention, but the event is disrupted by the murder of a TV producer. Featuring cameos by the stars of genre shows, including Battlestar Galactica. (R)

10.00 CSI: NY. The case against alleged rapist John Curtis is put in jeopardy.

10.55 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit.

11.50 Inside Hollywood. (R)

3.05 American Idol 5.55 Film: Flipper (1996) 8.00 Homes from Hell 9.00 Planet's Funniest Animals 9.20 Britain's Got More Talent. New series. Stephen Mulhern goes behind the scenes of the show and talks to presenters Ant and Dec, as well as judges David Walliams, Alesha Dixon, Amanda Holden and Simon Cowell. 10.20 Take Me Out — The Gossip 11.05 Celebrity Juice 11.50 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records

ITV3

2.50 Film: Agatha Christie's Murder in Three Acts (1986) 4.50 Rosemary & Thyme 5.50 A Touch of Frost 8.00 Doc Martin 9.00 Foyle's War 11.00 Those Who Kill

ITV4

2.20 Film: The War Wagon (1967) 4.25 Film: The Spy Who Loved Me (1977) 7.00 Whisker Wars 8.00 Rookie Builders 9.00 Film: Moonraker (1979) Adventure, starring Roger Moore. 11.30 Film: The Game (1997)

BBC THREE

7.00 Doctor Who 7.50 Top Gear 8.50 World's Craziest Fools 9.20 JLS Sing for Sport Relief 10.50 Family Guy 11.35 American Dad!

BBC FOUR

7.00 Lost Cities of the Ancients 8.00 Monty Don's Italian Gardens 9.00 Inspector Montalbano 10.45 Top of the Pops: 1977 11.20 Lost Cities of the Ancients

E4

1.45 Hollyoaks 4.20 Rules of Engagement 4.50 Scrubs 5.45 The Big Bang Theory 7.05 How I Met Your Mother 7.35 Rules of Engagement 8.35 Happy Endings 9.00 Film: Independence Day (1996) 11.55 The Big Bang Theory

FILM4

3.05 Guess Who (2005) 5.10 Eragon (2006) 7.10 Bedazzled (2000) Fantasy comedy remake, starring Brendan Fraser. 9.00 Dogma (1999) Comedy fantasy, starring Matt Damon and Ben Affleck. 11.25 Bug (2006)

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Sunday 25th

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ITV2
2.25 Film: The NeverEnding Story (1984) 4.20
Britain's Got Talent 5.40 Britain's Got More
Talent 6.40 Film: E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial
(1982) 9.00 Benidorm, Liam thinks his luck is
in when the girls' Olympic synchronised
swimming team arrives at the hotel — but they
seem more interested in joining a booze cruise.
10.00 Film: Waterworld (1995)

ITV3
3.00 Torvill & Dean: Dancing on Ice Tour 2011
4.05 Film: Smokey and the Bandit (1977) 5.55
Agatha Christie's Poirot 9.00 An Audience with
Freddie Starr 10.00 Film: The Green Mile (1999)

ITV4
1.45 Film: Moonraker (1979) 4.15 Film:
Spartacus (1960) 8.00 Premiership Rugby
Union 9.00 Film: For Your Eyes Only (1981)
11.40 Film: Full Metal Jacket (1987)

BBC THREE
7.00 The Secrets of Everything 7.30 Great
Movie Mistakes 2011: NOT IN 3D 7.40 The
Voice UK 9.00 Being Human 10.00 Pramface
10.30 Family Guy 11.15 American Dad!

BBC FOUR
7.00 Songwriters' Circle: Country 8.00 She-
Wolves: England's Early Queens 9.00 Angelic
Voices: The Choristers of Salisbury Cathedral
10.30 The Choir: Military Wives

E4
3.40 Film: Star Trek: Insurrection (1998) 5.45
Film: Picture Perfect (1997) 7.40 Samantha
Who? 8.05 90210 9.00 Desperate Housewives
11.00 Skins

FILM4
2.50 Tales from Earthsea (2006) 5.05 Big
Momma's House 2 (2006) 7.00 Life or
Something Like It (2002) Comedy, starring
Angelina Jolie and Edward Burns. 9.00 Coco
before Chanel (2009) Premiere. Biopic of the
fashion designer, starring Audrey Tautou. 11.10
Naked (1993)

Choice

BBC1

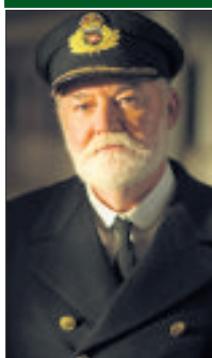
BBC2

ITV1

Channel 4

Channel 5

Digital



TITANIC

ITV1, 9pm

The problem with bringing a true-life story to the screen is that everybody knows how it's going to end. So what can a writer to do keep the humble viewer on the edge of their seats? Well, if you're Julian Fellowes, the answer is to make the tale more human. Now, after weeks of seeing tantalising trailers, Fellowes' lavish, four-part take on the sinking of the Titanic is here at last, and we'll be able to see for ourselves whether he's managed to breathe new life into a story we probably think we already know inside out. The opening edition introduces viewers to the wide variety of people about to board the ship in Southampton. Linus Roache, Celia Imrie and Sophie Winkleman star.

6.00 Breakfast. 7.30 Match of the Day. (R) 9.00 The Andrew Marr Show. 10.00 The Big Questions. 11.00 Country Tracks. (R) Weather for the Week Ahead. 12.00 Sunday Politics. 100 Sport Relief 2012: The Mile Show. 2.45 Formula 1: Malaysian Grand Prix. 4.40 The Food Inspectors. 5.10 Songs of Praise. 5.45 Land Girls. (R)

6.35 BBC News: Regional News; Weather.

7.00 **Countryfile**. Matt Baker and Julia Bradbury explore Leicestershire, including Weather for the Week Ahead.

8.00 **Antiques Roadshow**. Fiona Bruce and the team revisit the Yorkshire Museum in York, where the main item of interest is a cocoa tin found in Captain Scott's tent during the 1910 Terra Nova expedition.

9.00 **Upstairs Downstairs**. Lady Agnew returns home, desperate to heal her marriage, and Sir Hallam is more than willing to make amends. But a dark discovery has explosive consequences. Last in the series.

10.00 **BBC News: Regional News; Weather**.

10.25 **We Won't Drop the Baby**. A couple with cerebral palsy prepare to have their second baby.

11.15 **Sport Relief Weekend 2012**.

12.30 **Weatherview**. 12.35 **Sign Zone**: Film 2012 with Claudia Winkleman. (R) 1.15 **Holby City**. (R) 2.15 **Question Time**. (R) 3.15 **Antiques Road Trip**. (R) 4.00 **BBC News**.

6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. (R) 11.30 Escape to the Country. 12.30 The Sheriffs Are Coming. 1.15 **EastEnders**. 3.10 Film: *Carry On Again, Doctor*. (1969) Comedy, starring Sid James. 4.35 Film: *Carry On at Your Convenience*. (1971) Comedy, starring Sid James.

6.00 **TOTP2: Boy Bands**. Performances by JLS, the Monkees, Westlife, Village People and Blazin' Squad. (R)

7.00 **Sandhurst**. New series. Documentary following cadets at the Royal Military Academy as they undergo an arduous training programme in a bid to become British Army officers. Previously shown on BBC4.

8.00 **Top Gear**. Further highlights from the show's 17th and 18th series, in which Jeremy Clarkson, Richard Hammond and James May got up to more motoring mischief.

9.00 **In Orbit: How Satellites Rule Our World**. Maggie Aderin-Pocock reveals how satellites help everyday life run smoothly.

10.00 **Match of the Day 2**. Highlights of West Bromwich Albion v Newcastle United.

10.50 **Mr Rich and the Terriers**. An American billionaire sponsors a Northumbrian non-league football club.

11.20 **Football League Trophy Highlights**.

12.00 **Formula 1**: Malaysian Grand Prix. (R) 2.00 **BBC News**. 4.00 Close.

6.00 CITV: Mini CITV. 7.25 CITV. 9.25 **ITV News**. 9.30 **Ade in Britain**. (R) 10.30 **May the Best House Win**. (R) 11.30 **Dickinson's Real Deal**. (R) 12.30 **ITV News; Weather**. 12.35 **Britain's Got Talent**. (R) 1.55 Film: *Murder, She Wrote: The Celtic Riddle*. (2003) 3.35 **Midsomer Murders**. (R) 5.35 **The Planet's Funniest Animals**. (R) 5.50 **Regional News; Weather**.

6.05 **ITV News; Weather**.

6.20 **Harry Hill's TV Burp**. The funnyman presents the final Burp in the present run. Last in the series. (R)

6.50 **Dancing on Ice**. The celebrity skating contest reaches its climax as the three remaining stars battle it out in the hope of succeeding last year's winner Sam Attwater. Last in the series.

9.00 **Titanic**. New series. Epic drama re-telling the story of the maritime disaster. People from all walks of life board the liner at Southampton, unaware what lies ahead. Linus Roache stars. The four-part drama concludes on April 15 — the 100th anniversary of the real-life disaster.

10.00 **ITV News at Ten; Weather**.

10.15 **Perspectives**: David Suchet — *People I Have Shot*. The actor photographs people across Britain, including the Queen.

11.15 **Premiership Rugby Union**.

12.15 **The Zone**: **ITV News Headlines**. 2.35 **River Monsters**. (R) 3.20 **ITV Nightscreen**. 5.30 **ITV Morning News**.

6.15 **The Hoobs**. (R) 6.40 **The Hoobs**. (R) 7.05 **Road to London 2012: That Paralympic Show**. (R) 7.30 **Sailing: America's Cup Uncovered**. (R) 7.50 **Channel 4 Presents: The Year 2012**: Hannah Crook — Part Two. (R) 8.00 **Everybody Loves Raymond**. (R) 8.25 **Everybody Loves Raymond**. (R) 8.55 **Frasier**. (R) 9.25 **Frasier**. (R) 10.00 **Sunday Brunch**. 12.00 **The Big Bang Theory**. (R) 12.30 **The Big Bang Theory**. (R) 12.55 **The Simpsons**. (R) 1.25 **Film: Failure to Launch**. (2006) Romantic comedy, with Sarah Jessica Parker and Matthew McConaughey. 3.10 **Deal or No Deal**. 4.10 **Time Team**. 5.15 **Channel 4 News**. 5.45 **4thought**. (tv). 5.50 Film: *Avatar*. (2009) Premiere. Sci-fi adventure, starring Sam Worthington.

9.00 **Homeland**. The CIA director is reeling after losing key players in the Nazir plot, so Carrie suggests lie-detector tests on everybody, believing she can finally get the truth from Brody.

10.00 **The Million Pound Drop Live**. Davina McCall presents the quiz show in which contestants can win £1million, but lose money for giving incorrect answers.

11.30 **ITM: The Illusionist**. (2006) A magician in early 20th-century Vienna tries to stop the love of his life from marrying a ruthless prince. Mystery thriller, with Edward Norton.

1.30 **The Big Bang Theory**. (R) 3.00 **Reaper**. (R) 3.45 **Holyoaks**. Omnibus. Riley refuses to allow Mercedes to attend Bobby's christening. Barney suffers a terrifying encounter, and Dennis returns from India with a secret.

6.00 **Milkshake!**: *Peppa Pig*. 6.05 **Roary the Racing Car**. (R) 6.15 **Fifi and the Flowertots**. (R) 6.25 **City of Friends**. (R) 6.40 **Harry and His Bucket Full of Dinosaurs**. (R) 6.50 **Castle Farm**. (R) 6.55 **Igjam Ogarn**. (R) 7.05 **Roobarb and Custard**. (R) 7.15 **Bananas in Pyjamas**. (R) 7.25 **Family**. (R) 7.35 **Make Way for Noddy**. (R) 7.50 **Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures**. (R) 8.00 **Little Princess**. (R) 8.15 **The Adventures of Bertie**: *Top Bill* and His Best Friend Corky. (R) 8.30 **Angeline Ballerina**. (R) 8.45 **Rupert Bear**. (R) 9.00 **Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom**. (R) 9.15 **The Mr Men Show**. (R) 9.25 **Roary the Racing Car**. (R) 9.40 **Mist: Sheepdog Tales**. (R) 10.00 **Meerkat Manor**. (R) 10.25 **Grey's Anatomy**. (R) 11.20 **Stansted: The Inside Story**. (R) 12.20 **Cowboy Builders**. (R) 1.25 **Film: The Shootist**. (1976) Western, starring John Wayne. 3.20 **Film: Tunes of Glory**. (1960) Drama, starring Alec Guinness and John Mills. 5.20 **Film: Battle of Britain**. (1969) Second World War drama, starring Laurence Olivier.

8.00 **Battle of Britain: The Lost Evidence**. The tactics that won the 114-day air conflict. (R) 8.55 **Film: Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines**. (2003) Sci-fi adventure sequel, with Arnold Schwarzenegger and Nick Stahl.

9.00 **Film: Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines**. (2003) Sci-fi adventure sequel, with Arnold Schwarzenegger and Nick Stahl.

11.10 **Film: Timecop**. (1994) Sci-fi adventure, starring Jean-Claude Van Damme.

1.05 **SuperCasino**. 4.00 **The FBI Files**. (R) 4.50 **Rough Guide to Cities**. (R) 5.00 **Han's Helpline**. (R) 5.10 **The Milkshake! Show**. (R) 5.35 **Thomas & Friends**. (R) 5.45 **Roary the Racing Car**. (R)

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thechronicle

Monday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 The 1952 Show. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 The Sheriffs Are Coming. 11.45 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News. 2.00 Doctors. 2.15 Secrets and Words. 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 Bang Goes the Theory; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 EastEnders. 8.30 Murdoch's TV Pirates. 9.00 Coronation Street. 10.35 One Night in the Den. 11.30 Rainbows. 12.05 Who Do You Think You Are? (U) 12.50 Weatherview. 12.55 Sign Zone: Letting Go. (R) 1.40 Great British Food Revival. (R) 2.45 Hidden. (R) 3.40 Antiques Road Trip. (R) 4.25 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.30 BBC World News. 12.00 Daily Politics. 1.00 My Life in Books. (R) 1.30 Living Dangerously. (R) 2.15 Weakest Link. 3.00 Helicopter Heroes. (R) 3.45 Flug It! Ten of the Best. 4.30 Breakaway. 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Just a Minute. 6.30 Eggheads. 7.00 Veni, Vidi, Vici. A Woman's Place. 8.00 Angels of Mercy. 8.30 The Little Paris Kitchen: Cooking with Rachel Khoo. 9.00 The Tube. 10.00 Watson & Oliver. 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 In Orbit: How Satellites Rule Our World. (R) 12.20 BBC News. 2.15 The Super League Show. 3.00 BBC Learning Zone.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Midsummer Murders. (R) 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 Coronation Street. 7.00 The Dales. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 Scott & Bailey. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 The Agenda. 11.05 Mayday. 11.35 Piers Morgan's Life Stories: David Hasselhoff. (R) 12.30 The Zone; ITV News. Headlines. 2.30 Coronation League Weekly. 3.00 ITV News. 4.35 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.00 The Treacle People. (R) 6.15 The Hoobs. (R) 6.40 The Hoobs. (R) 7.05 Freshly Squeezed. 7.35 According to Jim. 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Undercover Boss USA. (R) 10.00 The Food Hospital. (R) 11.00 You Deserve This House. 12.00 Channel 4 News Midday Summary. 12.05 Baking Mad with Eric Lanlard. 12.35 River Cottage Bites. (R) 12.45 Film: Darby's Rangers. (1957) Second World War adventure, starring James Garner. 1.05 Channel 4 Presents – 2012: Will Bayley. Part Two. (R) 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Come Dine with Me. 6.00 Four in a Bed. 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.tv. 8.00 Supersize vs. Superskinny. 9.00 Big Fat Gypsy Weddings. 10.00 Facejacker. 10.30 Hit the Road Jack. 11.05 Random Acts. 11.10 Desperate Housewives. 12.05 Poker. 1.05 Sailing: America's Cup Uncovered. 1.35 KOTW: Boxing Week. 2.00 The Great British Beeb. (R) 2.35 Film: The Civil War. 3.15 Music on 4: All the Young Paralympics. (R) 4.05 Road to London 2012: Paralympics Extra. Last in the series. 5.00 Channel 4 Presents – 2012: Helen Turner. (R) 5.05 Full Metal Challenge. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with Gabby. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Emergency Bikers. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 2.15 The Mentalist. (R) 3.10 Film: Nora Roberts' Northern Lights. (2009) Premiere. Romantic mystery, starring Eddie Cibrian and LeAnn Rimes. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 5 News. 6.30. 7.00 Inside the Titanic. (R) 9.00 Film: Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves. (1991) Action. English robin hood retains a group of bandits to fight for justice and protect the downtrodden. Action-adventure, with Kevin Costner, Alan Rickman and Morgan Freeman. 12.05 Gladiator: The True Story. (R) 1.00 SuperCasino. 3.55 House Doctor. (R) 4.20 Wildlife SOS. (R) 5.10 Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R)

Tuesday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 The 1952 Show. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 The Sheriffs Are Coming. 11.45 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News. 2.00 Doctors. 2.15 Secrets and Words. 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 Cash Britain; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 EastEnders. 8.30 Murdoch's TV Pirates. 9.00 The National Lottery Update. 10.35 One Night. 11.35 The Estate. 12.05 Film: Wishful Thinking. (1996) Romantic comedy, starring Drew Barrymore. 1.30 Weatherview. 1.35 Sign Zone: The Apprentice. (R) 2.35 Exile. (R) 3.35 Great British Food Revival. (R) 4.35 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.30 BBC World News. 12.00 Daily Politics. 1.00 My Life in Books. (R) 1.30 Living Dangerously. (R) 2.15 Weakest Link. 3.00 Helicopter Heroes. (R) 3.45 Flug It! Ten of the Best. 4.30 Breakaway. 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Just a Minute. 6.30 Eggheads. 7.00 This Is the World. (R) 8.00 The Mormon Candidate. 8.00 The Hairy Bikers' Bakation. 9.00 Horizon: Global Weirding. 10.00 Never Mind the Buzzcocks. (R) 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 WikiLeaks: The Secret Life of a Superpower. 10.00 The Apprentice: You're Fired! 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Storyville: The Biggest Chinese Restaurant in the World. 12.20 Medium. (R) 1.45 BBC News. 3.00 BBC Learning Zone.

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BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.30 BBC World News. 12.00 Daily Politics. 1.00 My Life in Books. (R) 1.30 Living Dangerously. (R) 2.15 Weakest Link. 3.00 Animal Park. (R) 2.15 Weakest Link. 3.00 Helicopter Heroes. (R) 3.45 Flug It! Ten of the Best. 4.30 Breakaway. 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Just a Minute. 6.30 Eggheads. 7.00 Escape to the Country. 7.30 Watson & Oliver. (R) 8.00 The Fisherman's Apprentice with Monty Halls. 9.00 WikiLeaks: The Secret Life of a Superpower. 10.00 The Apprentice: You're Fired! 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Storyville: The Biggest Chinese Restaurant in the World. 12.20 Medium. (R) 1.45 BBC News. 3.00 BBC Learning Zone.

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Channel 4 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.30 BBC World News. 12.00 Daily Politics. 1.00 My Life in Books. (R) 1.30 Living Dangerously. (R) 2.15 Weakest Link. 3.00 Animal Park. (R) 2.15 Weakest Link. 3.00 Helicopter Heroes. (R) 3.45 Flug It! Ten of the Best. 4.30 Breakaway. 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Just a Minute. 6.30 Eggheads. 7.00 Escape to the Country. 7.30 Watson & Oliver. (R) 8.00 The Fisherman's Apprentice with Monty Halls. 9.00 WikiLeaks: The Secret Life of a Superpower. 10.00 The Apprentice: You're Fired! 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Storyville: The Biggest Chinese Restaurant in the World. 12.20 Medium. (R) 1.45 BBC News. 3.00 BBC Learning Zone.

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with Gabby. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 London: The Inside Story. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: NY. (R) 3.15 Film: The Perfect Teacher. (2010) Premier. Thriller, starring Jennifer Lopez. 4.00 Midsummer Murders. (R) 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News. 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Coronation Street. 8.00 Poms in Paradise. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 Benidorm. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Words. 11.00 The Review Show. 11.20 Weather. 11.35 The National Lottery Friday Night Draw. 11.45 Film: Denzel Washington. 12.25 Sign Zone: Natural World: Madagascar Lemurs and Spies. (R) 3.05 Question Time. 4.05 Antiques Road Trip. (R) 4.45 BBC News.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Midsummer Murders. (R) 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 Poms in Paradise. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 Benidorm. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Words. 11.00 The Review Show. 11.20 Weather. 11.35 The National Lottery Friday Night Draw. 11.45 Film: Denzel Washington. 12.25 Sign Zone: Natural World: Madagascar Lemurs and Spies. (R) 3.05 Question Time. 4.05 Antiques Road Trip. (R) 4.45 BBC News.

Friday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 The 1952 Show. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer; (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 The Sheriffs Are Coming. 11.45 Cash in the Attic; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News. 2.00 Doctors. 2.15 Secrets and Words. 3.00 BBC News; Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 Cash Britain; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 EastEnders. 8.30 Murdoch's TV Pirates. 9.00 The National Lottery Update. 10.35 One Night. 11.35 The Estate. 12.05 Film: Poltergeist. (1982) Horror, starring JoBeth Williams. 1.35 Weatherview. 1.40 Sign Zone: Letting Go. (R) 1.40 Great British Food Revival. (R) 2.45 Hidden. (R) 3.40 Antiques Road Trip. (R) 4.25 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.30 BBC World News. 12.00 Daily Politics. 1.00 My Life in Books. (R) 1.30 Living Dangerously. (R) 2.15 Weakest Link. 3.00 Animal Park. (R) 2.15 Weakest Link. 3.00 Helicopter Heroes. (R) 3.45 Flug It! Ten of the Best. 4.30 Breakaway. 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Just a Minute. 6.30 Eggheads. 7.00 Escape to the Country. 7.30 Watson & Oliver. (R) 8.00 The Fisherman's Apprentice with Monty Halls. 9.00 WikiLeaks: The Secret Life of a Superpower. 10.00 The Apprentice: You're Fired! 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Storyville: The Biggest Chinese Restaurant in the World. 12.20 Medium. (R) 1.45 BBC News. 3.00 BBC Learning Zone.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Midsummer Murders. (R) 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 Poms in Paradise. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 Benidorm. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Words. 11.00 The Review Show. 11.20 Weather. 11.35 The National Lottery Friday Night Draw. 11.45 Film: Denzel Washington. 12.25 Sign Zone: Natural World: Madagascar Lemurs and Spies. (R) 3.05 Question Time. 4.05 Antiques Road Trip. (R) 4.45 BBC News.

Channel 4 6.00 Sali Mali. (R) 6.15 The Treacle People. (R) 6.40 The Hoobs. (R) 7.05 Freshly Squeezed. 7.35 According to Jim. 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Undercover Boss USA. (R) 10.00 The Food Hospital. (R) 11.00 You Deserve This House. 12.00 Channel 4 News Midday Summary. 12.05 Baking Mad with Eric Lanlard. 12.35 River Cottage Bites. (R) 12.45 Film: Darby's Rangers. (1957) Second World War adventure, starring James Garner. 1.05 Channel 4 Presents – 2012: Will Bayley. Part Two. (R) 3.10 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Come Dine with Me. 6.00 Four in a Bed. 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.tv. 8.00 Four Rooms. 9.00 One Born Every Minute. 10.00 10 O'Clock Live. 10.55 Facejacker. (R) 11.25 Hit the Road Jack. 12.00 Random Acts. 12.15 Music on 4: Mercury Prize Sessions. 12.35 Music on 4: The Great British Beeb. (R) 2.35 Film: The Civil War. 3.15 Music on 4: All the Young Paralympics. (R) 4.05 Road to London 2012: Paralympics Extra. Last in the series. 5.00 Music on 4: Live from Abbey Road. (R) 3.30 One Man Walking. (R) 3.50 Privileged. (R) 4.30 90210. (R) 5.15 Countdown. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with Gabby. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 London: The Inside Story. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 NCIS. (R) 3.15 Film: Wandering Eye. (2011) Premier. Thriller, starring Vanessa Marcelli. 5.05 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 5 News at 6. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 7.00 Hollyoaks. 7.30 Hollyoaks. 8.00 Hollyoaks. 8.30 Hollyoaks. 9.00 Hollyoaks. 10.00 Hollyoaks. 10.30 Hollyoaks. 11.00 Hollyoaks. 11.30 Hollyoaks. 12.00 Hollyoaks. 12.30 Hollyoaks. 13.00 Hollyoaks. 13.30 Hollyoaks. 14.00 Hollyoaks. 14.30 Hollyoaks. 15.00 Hollyoaks. 15.30 Hollyoaks. 16.00 Hollyoaks. 16.30 Hollyoaks. 17.00 Hollyoaks. 17.30 Hollyoaks. 18.00 Hollyoaks. 18.30 Hollyoaks. 19.00 Hollyoaks. 19.30 Hollyoaks. 20.00 Hollyoaks. 20.30 Hollyoaks. 21.00 Hollyoaks. 21.30 Hollyoaks. 22.00 Hollyoaks. 22.30 Hollyoaks. 23.00 Hollyoaks. 23.30 Hollyoaks. 24.00 Hollyoaks. 24.30 Hollyoaks. 25.00 Hollyoaks. 25.30 Hollyoaks. 26.00 Hollyoaks. 26.30 Hollyoaks. 27.00 Hollyoaks. 27.30 Hollyoaks. 28.00 Hollyoaks. 28.30 Hollyoaks. 29.00 Hollyoaks. 29.30 Hollyoaks. 30.00 Hollyoaks. 30.30 Hollyoaks. 31.00 Hollyoaks. 31.30 Hollyoaks. 32.00 Hollyoaks. 32.30 Hollyoaks. 33.00 Hollyoaks. 33.30 Hollyoaks. 34.00 Hollyoaks. 34.30 Hollyoaks. 35.00 Hollyoaks. 35.30 Hollyoaks. 36.00 Hollyoaks. 36.30 Hollyoaks. 37.00 Hollyoaks. 37.30 Hollyoaks. 38.00 Hollyoaks. 38.30 Hollyoaks. 39.00 Hollyoaks. 39.30 Hollyoaks. 40.00 Hollyoaks. 40.30 Hollyoaks. 41.00 Hollyoaks. 41.30 Hollyoaks. 42.00 Hollyoaks. 42.30 Hollyoaks. 43.00 Hollyoaks. 43.30 Hollyoaks. 44.00 Hollyoaks. 44.30 Hollyoaks. 45.00 Hollyoaks. 45.30 Hollyoaks. 46.00 Hollyoaks. 46.30 Hollyoaks. 47.00 Hollyoaks. 47.30 Hollyoaks. 48.00 Hollyoaks. 48.30 Hollyoaks. 49.00 Hollyoaks. 49.30 Hollyoaks. 50.00 Hollyoaks. 50.30 Hollyoaks. 51.00 Hollyoaks. 51.30 Hollyoaks. 52.00 Hollyoaks. 52.30 Hollyoaks. 53.00 Hollyoaks. 53.30 Hollyoaks. 54.00 Hollyoaks. 54.30 Hollyoaks. 55.00 Hollyoaks. 55.30 Hollyoaks. 56.00 Hollyoaks. 56.30 Hollyoaks. 57.00 Hollyoaks. 57.30 Hollyoaks. 58.00 Hollyoaks. 58.30 Hollyoaks. 59.00 Hollyoaks.

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The kitchen – 11ft 6in by 9ft – is fitted with an extensive range of units including base cupboards, drawer units, display units, work top surfaces, inset one-and-a-half bowl acrylic sink unit with mixer taps, wall cupboards, built-in double oven and gas hob with cooker hood.



A short distance from countryside, the home is convenient for shops and schools

Extended home on the market

AN EXTENDED family home in one of the more sought-after residential areas of Sedgley is on the market priced at £349,995.

The property, in Cotwall End Road, is convenient for local schools and shops while being just a short distance from the countryside.

Offering well-proportioned four-bed accommodation the property is well suited for a family having three reception rooms, well fitted kitchen, conservatory, four double bedrooms, bathroom and separate shower room.

It is set in a good-sized plot which is particularly private to the rear and has ample parking to the front.

On the ground floor is a study measuring 6ft

5in by 4ft 2in, while the lounge is 14ft 1in by 10ft 11in with an inset feature inglenook style fireplace with living flame gas coal fire and tiled hearth.

The dining room is 11ft by 10ft 11in, the conservatory 13ft by 11ft 4in and the family/breakfast room 13ft 10in by 9ft 1in.

Provision

The kitchen – 11ft 6in by 9ft – is fitted with an extensive range of units including base cupboards, drawer units, display units, work top surfaces, inset one-and-a-half bowl acrylic sink unit with mixer taps, wall cupboards, built-in double oven and gas hob with cooker hood.

There is a utility area with provision for washing machine, and a WC with low-level suite

and wash hand basin.

On the first floor bedroom one has a patio door onto a balcony which overlooks the rear garden, and there are three more bedrooms and a bathroom with panelled bath with electric shower and screen, wash hand basin in vanity unit and low-level WC.

There is also a shower room with shower, pedestal wash hand basin and low-level WC.

Outside is a lawned front garden with shrub borders and wide asphalt driveway to the integral garage.

There is also a storeroom and to the rear a good sized private and well laid out garden with patio, random stone walling, lawns and shrubs.

Call Wakeman estate agents on 01902 885894



The large home is on a good-sized plot which is particularly private to the rear

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Modern home in cul-de-sac location
15ft 8in dining kitchen & 14ft lounge
3 bedrooms & refitted family bathroom
UPVC DG & GCH & UPVC conservatory
Large block paved driveway with garage
Part lawned & part decked rear garden

£145,000 Ref: D1167



3 bed semi on corner plot
2 separate reception rooms
Extended 20ft breakfast kitchen
Upstairs bathroom & D/S WC
Garage & driveway to front
UPVC DG & GCH

£134,995 Ref: D1164



Traditional 3 bed semi-detached home
Driveaway/gated parking to the front
25ft lounge/diner & 9ft kitchen
Side veranda/utility area
Gas CH & DBG, extensive lawned rear garden
No upward chain

£134,950 Ref: D1170



5 bed extended & modernised home
Refitted kitchen & utility room
Refitted d/s shower rm & 2 recps
Refitted family bathroom & 5 beds
Driveaway/gated parking to rear
In sought after tree lined road

£265,000 Ref: D1171



Superbly presented & extended home
Breakfast kitchen, separate utility & side store
Dining room, lounge with conservatory off
3 bedrooms & bathroom on first floor
Large rear garden with paved terrace
Front driveway providing off road parking

£225,000 Ref: D1173



Extended detached 3 bed family home
Extended fitted breakfast kitchen & DS WC
Extended 21ft lounge & sep dining room
Block paved driveway & garage
Large rear garden with paved terrace & patio
In sought after tree lined road

£219,950 Ref: D1169



Extended semi-detached home with 2 recps
Extended kitchen with appliances
Refitted bathroom & 3 bedrooms
Large 17ft x 15ft(w) garage
Block paved driveway - lots of parking
Gas central heating & double glazing

£215,000 Ref: D1172



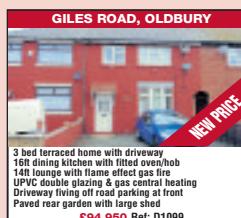
3 bed home in sought after cul-de-sac
14ft 8 lounge & 13ft 8 dining room
11ft 8 kitchen leading to sitting room & DS WC
3 bedrooms & bathroom with white suite
Garage & driveway giving off road parking
UPVC double glazing & gas central heating

£179,950 Ref: D1128



Detached bungalow in cul-de-sac
17ft 6 lounge diner & fitted kitchen
2 double bedrooms & shower room
Garage & driveway
Paved rear garden with southerly aspect
UPVC DG soffits & fascias & GCH

£159,950 Ref: D1166



3 bed terraced home with driveway
16ft dining kitchen with fitted oven/hob
14ft lounge with flame effect gas fire
UPVC double glazing & gas central heating
Driveway/allocated parking at front
Paved rear garden with large shed

£94,950 Ref: D1099



Spacious & character filled 4 bed
Refitted kitchen & utility room
2 reception rooms, driveway, garage
Refitted bathroom with separate shower
Cathcart fully refitted
Gas central heating & security system fitted

£249,950 Ref: D1022



Detached home in pleasant cul-de-sac
Kitchen with separate breakfast room
Lounge/diner overlooking rear garden
2 reception rooms, driveway, garage
GCH & majority double glazing
Integral garage & driveway

£169,950 Ref: D903



Spacious first floor flat with 2 double beds
Secluded position over looking woodland
Lounge & kitchen - with woodland views
Communal rear garden - allocated parking
Fitted garage, laundry room & boiler
Vacant possession - No upward chain

£89,950 Ref: D1046

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Hillwood Road, Halesowen



A mid terrace property comprising lounge, kitchen, three bedrooms and bathroom. To the outside there is a driveway and rear garage. No upward chain.

Offers Over £80,000

NEW PRICE

Gorsy Hill Road, Rowley Regis



A three bedroom semi-detached property comprising two reception rooms, kitchen, bathroom and rear garden. No Upward Chain.

£105,000

Sheepfold Close, Rowley Regis



Offers Over £90,000 NEW PRICE

A two bedroom property comprising lounge, kitchen and bathroom. Rear garden, double glazing and central heating.

Nimmins Road, Halesowen



£93,000 NEW INSTRUCTION

A two bedroom mid terrace property comprising lounge, dining room, kitchen and bathroom. Central heating and double glazing.

Springfield Lane, Rowley Regis



A three bedroom end of terrace property comprising kitchen, lounge/diner, bathroom, garden and driveway. No upward chain

Offers Over £100,000

Buckingham Road, Rowley Regis



A four bedroom detached property comprising lounge, kitchen/diner, utility, en-suite, bathroom, driveway and garage. Front and rear gardens.

Offers Over £160,000

NEW

Olive Lane, Halesowen



£124,950 NEW INSTRUCTION

An end terraced two bedroom property comprising dining room, lounge, bathroom, kitchen and rear garden.

Meres Road, Halesowen



£140,000

A three bedroom semi detached property comprising lounge, kitchen/diner, bathroom, front and rear gardens and garage.

Cherry Orchard Crescent, Halesowen



Offers Over £185,000

A three bedroom semi detached property comprising lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility, bathroom, driveway, garage and rear garden.

Firth Park Crescent, Halesowen



A three bedroom detached property comprising lounge/diner, breakfast kitchen, bathroom, garage and driveway. No upward chain

£200,000

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CRADLEY HEATH, STATION ROAD
A rectangular shaped site with access off Station Road ideally suited for 45-50 car sales pitch or development with B1 (Business) or B8 (Storage and Distribution) uses, subject to obtaining the necessary planning consents. We understand that water and electricity is available on site subject to re-connection costs. A legal pack is available upon request.
£900 PCM



HALESOWEN, LONG LANE
A fully refurbished three bedroomed detached property, close to the railway station and BlackHeath town centre. Comprising of: Two Double and One Single Bedrooms, Large Lounge with Dining Area, Breakfast Kitchen with All Integrated White Goods, Bathroom with 'P' Shaped Bath and Shower, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Parking Available for One Car. Viewing Highly Recommended
£650 PCM



HALESOWEN, WILLOWSBROOK ROAD
Located in this popular area of Hurn Green, close to motorway access, transport links to Birmingham and good schools, is this unfurnished semi detached house, comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Living Room/Dining Room, Fitted Dining Kitchen, Utility Room, Downstairs WC, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Front & Rear Gardens, Garage and Driveway
£650 PCM



HAGLEY, MILL POOL CLOSE
Located in a peaceful location with lovely views is this unfurnished luxury ground floor apartment, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Through Lounge/Dining Room, Views Across Open Countryside, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower & Separate WC, Communal Gardens, Parking Space and Garage. Available Beginning May
£595 PCM



ROWLEY REGIS, FARM ROAD
Being refurbished and well presented is this a large and spacious semi-detached home, comprising of: Two Double Bedrooms and One Single Bedroom, Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Downstairs WC, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Front and Rear Gardens, On Road Parking. Unfurnished. A must See Property.
£575 PCM



CRADLEY HEATH, MARY MACARTHUR DRIVE
An unfurnished semi detached house, close to local transport, and shops, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Garage, Cul-de-sac, Parking, Gardens
£575 PCM



HALESOWEN, SUMMERHILL
Located within a stones throw of Halesowen town centre, is this impressive two bedroomed mid terrace and with inspection highly recommended, comprises of: Gas Radiator Heating, Double Glazing, Dining Room with Feature Fireplace, Rear Sitting Room, Attractive Kitchens, Fitted Shower Room but NO bath, Two Double Bedrooms and Pleasant Rear Garden. On Road Parking
£550 PCM



CRADLEY HEATH, MOSSVALE CLOSE
Being tastefully re-furbished to a high standard and within walking distance of Old Hill train station is this three bedroom mid-terrace property, comprising of: Two Large Double and One Large Single Bedrooms, Spacious Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Downstairs with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Downstairs WC, Small Rear Garden, Garage at Rear of Property. Available Immediately.
£550 PCM



ROWLEY REGIS, KILN CROFT
Located in a peaceful cul-de-sac, is this modern end terrace home which is well worth an inspection, comprising of: Two Large Double and One Large Single Bedrooms, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen with White Goods, Downstairs with Shower, Electric Heating, Rear Garden and One allocated Parking Space. This Property Will Not Last Long, So Don't Miss Out
£550 PCM



HALESOWEN, NEW JOHN STREET
Well presented mid terraced house, can part furnished if necessary, comprising of: Three Good Size Bedrooms, Gas Central Heating, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen with Range Cooker, Utility Room, Guest WC, Bathroom with Shower, Garden, Driveway Parking
£550 PCM



TIVIDALE, LINDEN AVENUE
Three Bed Semi-Detached House. Extensively Refurbished with New Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing and comprises of: Entrance Hall, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen and Bathroom, Three Double Bedrooms. Available Immediately.
£525 PCM



HALESOWEN, HAGLEY ROAD
An unfurnished mid terraced house, briefly comprising of: Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Lovely Rear Garden, On Road Parking, Close to Town Centre.
£500 PCM



HALESOWEN, TENTERFIELDS
An exceptional opportunity to rent this room in a shared house, with no bills to pay at all, cleaning done for you, towels and tea and coffee supplied for each room, plus the use of free WiFi, use of the lounge, kitchen, office room. All rooms have their own ensuite facilities. Well worth a viewing, and ideal for a single person.
£500 PCM



CRADLEY HEATH, MEADOW WALK
Being recently redecorated and on a quiet road, is this unfurnished semi detached house, comprising of: Three Bedrooms, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Spacious Lounge, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Modern Downstairs Bathroom, Rear Garden, Driveway Parking.
£475 PCM



TIPTON, FERGUSON DRIVE
A lovely modern first floor apartment, briefly comprising of: Two Bedrooms, Spacious Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom with shower, Electric Storage Heating, Double Glazing, Two Allocated Parking Spaces, Communal Gardens, Internal Viewing Recommended.
£475 PCM



CRADLEY HEATH, PEAR TREE LANE
This lovely unfurnished modern first floor apartment, located in a popular area, and close to local train station and buses, comprises of: Gas Central Heating, Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Parking Space
£475 PCM



ROWLEY REGIS, POWKE LANE
A Part furnished apartment close to local amenities, briefly comprising of: Electric Storage Heating, Spacious Living Room, Fitted Dining Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Bathroom with Shower, Parking Space
£445 PCM



CRADLEY HEATH, ELBOW STREET
An unfurnished ground floor apartment on a popular development, also close to Old Hill high street and local train station, briefly comprising of: Electric Storage Heating, Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Bathroom with Shower, Allocated Parking Space (STRICTLY NO DSS)
£425 PCM



HALESOWEN, BOURNEBROOK CRESCENT
Located in the Howley Grange area is this first floor apartment, which can come either unfurnished or part furnished, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Large Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, On road parking.
£400 PCM



NETHERTON, BAPTIST END ROAD
An Unfurnished, Modern Ground Floor Flat Briefly Comprising: Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Bathroom with Shower, Electric Storage Heating, Double Glazing, Parking Space, Car Port, Communal Garden.
£395 PCM



BRIERLEY HILL, CHURCH HILL
Located within walking distance to Brierley Hill and Merry Hill, is this modernised second floor apartment, briefly comprising of: Fitted Kitchen, One Double Bedroom, Bathroom with Shower, Spacious Lounge, Parking Available at Rear
£330 PCM

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Restored home is on market for £295,000



Larnhill, situated in Kidderminster, is on the market with Allan Morris & Jones

A TASTEFULLY restored four-bedroom detached house in a sought-after location in Kidderminster is on the market priced at £295,000.

Larnhill, in Chester Road South, has ample parking, garage with workshop, delightful landscaped gardens and accommodation briefly comprising a lounge and dining room, snug, fitted kitchen, cloakroom, cellar, four double bedrooms, bathroom and separate wc, as well as benefiting from central heating and majority double glazing.

The property has been subject to painstaking restoration to include many original features such as wood doors, floors and fireplaces.

plumbing for all utilities. The first floor landing is 21ft 10in long and has a walk-in L-shaped wardrobe, and there are four bedrooms and a Victorian-style bathroom with a walk-in shower cubicle, plus a separate wc.

The reception hall is 18ft 9in long with an oak floor, cloakroom and doorway to the cellar, and there is a dining room to the front of the house with a feature fireplace and living flame gas fire.

The lounge is at the heart of the property with an original tiled fireplace and open fire, while the snug at the rear has a brick inglenook with log burner.

The kitchen complements the age of the property with natural wood cupboards, granite work surfaces and walk-in shelved pantry, with space and

plumbing for all utilities. The first floor landing is 21ft 10in long and has a walk-in L-shaped wardrobe, and there are four bedrooms and a Victorian-style bathroom with a walk-in shower cubicle, plus a separate wc.

Outside the property is set well back from the road with a sweeping driveway extending to the side of the house and there are generous landscaped gardens include a rockery with waterfall running through, lawns and a patio area.

At the top of the garden is a garage and workshop with adjoining carport.

Call Allan Morris & Jones on 01562 747755.

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ASHWOOD CLOSE, OLDBURY
£99,950

A spacious 2 double bedroom apartment, occupying the whole of the top floor of the block. This property benefits from good size bedrooms, dressing room to master bedroom, double glazing, electric heating, secure intercom building entry, modern fitted kitchen and bathroom, access to loft and therefore extra storage and allocated parking space. REDUCED FOR QUICK SALE



Coppice Road, Cradley Heath
£495

Recently fully refurbished 2 bedroom Semi-Detached house briefly comprising of; lounge/diner, kitchen, bathroom with shower. Utility room and outbuildings for further storage. Off road parking, front and rear gardens. Close to local amenities and local schools. Viewing recommended.



Cosford Drive, Netherton
£500

A well presented two bedroom property. The property briefly comprises of porch, living room, good size kitchen with breakfast bar, 2 double bedrooms and bathroom with shower. Gas central heating and double glazing. The property also has drive way and a low maintenance rear garden. Viewing Essential



Waggon Street, Old Hill
£485

A well presented two bedroom property in an ideal location close to local schools and within walking distance to bus routes and shops. The property briefly comprises of living room, kitchen, bathroom, Gas central heating and double glazing. The property also has off road parking and rear gardens.



Brook Lane, Oldhill
£495

A large 2 bedroom apartment comprising of: lounge, fitted kitchen, bathroom with shower, double glazed windows and off road parking. It is in a popular area, Within walking distance to local schools, bus routes and train station.



Harcourt Road, Oldhill
£500

A 3 bedroom large mid terraced family house briefly comprising: kitchen, bathroom, lounge and separate dining room. Off road parking, low maintenance rear gardens. Close to local amenities and within walking distance to local schools, bus routes and train station.

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MOTORING NEWS AND REVIEWS

CHRONICLE

MOTORING

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Your essential guide to the world of motoring compiled by Motoring Editor Sharon Walters

Audi sets pace in battle for prized saloon market

THE BATTLE for sales in the premium mid-sized family saloon market is intense, with the majority of customers choosing one of three German makes – Audi, BMW and Mercedes.

These three makes accounted for 93 per cent of UK premium sales in the UK last year and the competition is getting hotter all the time. Audi is first off the starting block with a new Audi A4 saloon and Avant (estate) model and shortly BMW will introduce a new 3-Series. While the new A4, like all new models is slightly



The new model has a new bumper, redesigned radiator grille and headlamps

By Brian Vertigen

bigger than the outgoing version, the most significant changes are in the engine range.

Audi is now putting more economical and friendly green engines into the A4 range – and there are 110 different models to choose from! Average fuel consumption overall is dropped by 11 per cent and torque has also been increased making some of the petrol engines very competitive with the diesel versions.

In all there are three petrol engines and six diesel engines. They are all turbocharged and all feature the economy start/stop and recuperation systems.

The most exciting engine, a new 1.8 litre petrol TFSI engine pushing out 170 PS was not available for test driving at the recent Audi launch. On paper it emits 21 per cent less CO₂ than its predecessor attracting a VED of £115 a year and running costs of around 43p per mile. The official combined mpg figure is around 49 but that of course is in perfect conditions.

The diesel range starts with a 134 bhp 2.0 litre four cylinder TDI unit that averages 64 mpg, with CO₂ emissions of 116 g/km placing it in band C for Vehicle Excise Duty. The rest of the range takes in 2.0 TDI 163PS, a 177 PS version and two very hot 3.0 litre TDI engines pushing up to 245PS. For those who want

a really 'hot' version to rival the BMW M3 there will be an RS 4 version in September this year.

On my road test of the various vehicles the 2 litre diesel engines were definitely the most enjoyable to drive and are so competent they almost make the 3.0 litre versions redundant. They offer plenty of power ranging from 136PS to 177PS with a choice of six-speed manual or multitronic gearboxes. There are Quattro four wheel drive versions offered with seven speed S tronic twin-clutch also available. Standard equipment highlights include 3-zone climate control, cruise control, Bluetooth and light and rain sensors. There are also the usual three pages of Audi optional extras at extra cost!

The new model features a new looking bonnet and front bumper, with redesigned radiator grille and headlamps. The cars all feature a new improved electro-mechanical power steering which makes the car easy to manoeuvre at low speeds.

The cabin is excellent and one of the car's high points; it is elegant and sophisticated. The dash sweeps round the driver. There's a new steering wheel to choose from, a new ignition key and the navigation system has been much improved with just four buttons instead of the confusing eight. Overall there is more room in the cabin than in the outgoing model. Only minus points are the pedals which are still off-set to the right. Across the range the price increase for the new models is £200. Prices start at £23,625 for the SE



German marques dominate the premium mid-sized family saloon trade

version of the old 1.8 petrol engine. The new 1.8 litre starts at £25,240, diesels range from £26,555 up to £38,405. The Avant versions add about an extra £1,200.

The A4 comes with a standard three year/60,000 mile warranty but for £34 a month owners can have Audi Complete which covers all services, maintenance and a five year/90,000 mile warranty.

Overall the fresher look of the car will certainly attract new buyers and the A4 is significantly cheaper than the BMW 3-Series – around a saving of £1,500.

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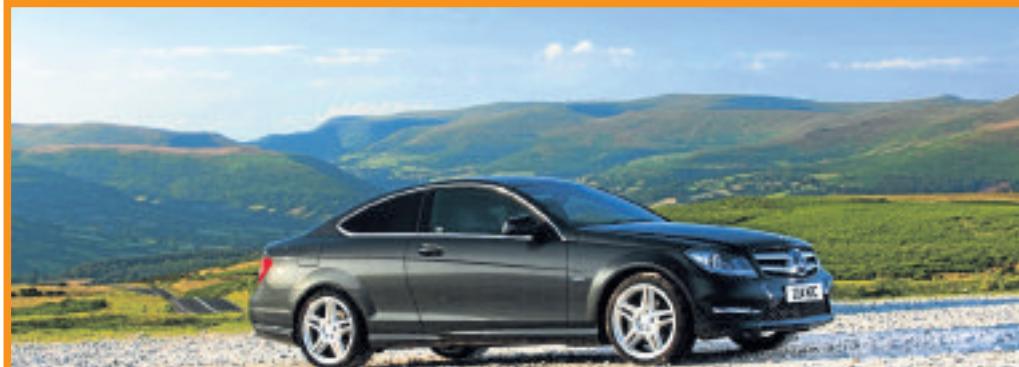
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Majestic Mercedes – the German marque is part of a group making up a quarter of UK new car sales

The new generation of badge snobs is growing

ANALYSIS from Glass's, the valuation expert, has revealed that the current generation of motorists has moved away from the mass-market sector with sales of 'prestige' car marques such as BMW, Mercedes and Audi now making up a quarter of all new car sales in the UK.

This is compared to just 10 per cent of sales 20 years ago, suggesting we are increasingly becoming a nation of badge snobs, happy to pay a premium to get the 'right' brand of car.

However, it is not just the prestige sector which

is capturing the imagination of a generation of motorists – the 'value' sector has also made huge gains in recent years, with market share of budget brands such as Skoda and Hyundai increasing 400 per cent.

Scrapage

This ever-growing sector now makes up 10 per cent of new car sales – compared to just two per cent 20 years ago.

However, the vast majority of growth in this sector has been as a result of the scrapage scheme which allowed already 'budget' cars to be purchased with a further £2,000 off their list price – meaning that many could, for the first

time, afford to buy a brand new car. Adrian Rushmore, Glass's managing editor, explains: 'Britons increasingly want to be 'individual' in their choice of car – many mass market cars are seen as 'same again' and just aren't as distinctive or appealing enough.'

"Many consumers still have a perception that mass market cars aren't built to last in the same way the prestige car marques are, despite the strides that all manufacturers have made in this area in recent years."

"Added to this, more affordable models from prestige brands have emerged in recent years with Mercedes offering the A-Class, Audi offering the A1 and BMW offering the 1 Series."

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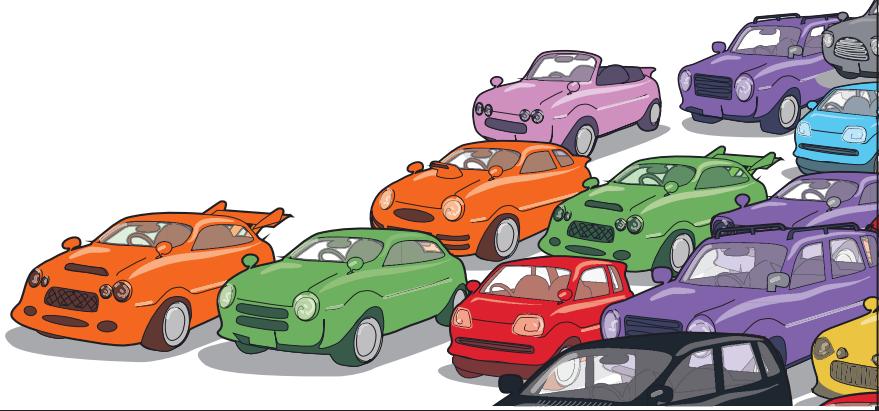
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However Lottie has been taken very ill, the costs so far is £400 and rising, these elderly ladies need to stay together and as we are struggling financially if anyone could spare a few bob to help us achieve a happy ending. £1,040.00. 07751 228571.

RABBITS

seven months old, free to a loving home. 01299 829529.

ROTTEWEILERS

Adult male and female. Excellent temperaments. Homes checked. Free to good home. 07688 619429.

SHIH-TZUZ AND CAVALIERS,

adorable little darlings. £350.00. 07830 730504.

THE QUARTER

Pug, 9 weeks old, bitches and dogs, £300. 07866 235571.

WILLENHALL

Large well refurbished 3

bedroomed b&b, close to town, 2 reception and cellar. New kitchen, double glazing, carpets and decoration. £350.00. Tel: 0121 382 421491.

WHITMORE

W'ton, 3 Bed house, 21ft, 2 reception, garage, £350.00. Tel: 0121 382 421491.

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Large well refurbished 3

bedroomed terrace house, 21ft, 2 reception and cellar. New kitchen, double glazing, carpets and decoration. £350.00. Tel: 0121 382 421491.

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FIAT GRANDE PUNTO DYNAMIC

2009, 48,000 miles, white, abs, electric windows, air bag, electric mirrors, air con, fsh, central locking, one owner, pas, diesel, CD.

£4,000 o.n.o.

07805 064749.

FIAT PANDA 1.1 ACTIVE 04, 5dr, met. blue, 24,000 miles, 1 owner, 2 months MoT, FSH, PAS, EW, CL, £2,100.00 07904 054840.

FIAT PUNTO 1.2 Active Sport, 2005, 67,000 miles, yellow, MoT, tax, 12 months, radio, CD player, £2,000.00 07882 270184.

FIESTA ZETEC 1.6 Blue TDCi, 1400cc, 5d, excellent condition, 47,000 miles, £5,200.00.

01743 833340 or 07505 405401.

KODIAQ 1.8 4x4, 06, excellent condition, leather interior, 49,000 miles, alloys, six month tax, MoT, June, £2,400 07802 180975.

FORD KA 1.3 55 reg, 73,000 miles, great condition, tax/Mot, good running order.

Walsall 07864 379041.

FORD RANGER pick up truck, silver, 100k, taxed and tested, good condition, £2,400. 07930 374988.

HONDA CIVIC TYPE S ICDT DIESEL

Economical, low tax, 08, one former owner, 29,000 miles, red, sat nav, CD, glass panoramic roof, immaculate, £3,295.00 o.n.o.

0384 291177 or 07971 988303.

HUNDAYA SANTA FE GSi CR TD 2WD

2.2 Diesel, 2006, Metallic Grey, Seven seater Estate, 86,000 miles, 12 months MoT, 9,000 Tax, £7,750.00 o.n.o.

0121 544 2562 or 0718 628860.

HYUNDAI KIA CERATO CRD 06, 33,000 miles, 2 owners, detachable tow bar, £5,995.00, consider part ex. 07974 311116.

JAGUAR S TYPE V6 Auto, dark blue metallic, 3 previous owners, 100,000 miles, £7,000.00 o.n.o.

07975 662265.

JAGUAR XJ8 3.2 EXECUTIVE

September 2001, Mistral blue, 2 owners, 77,000 miles, fsh, 6 months MoT, excellent condition.

£2,500.00.

Telephone 0121 556 7405.

JEEP GRAND Cherokee 51, met red, ac, alarm, auto, stereo, alloys, leather int, petrol, £1,750ono. 07985 646404.

KIA SORRENTO 2.5 XE DIESEL

4x4, 58 plate, Under 10,000 miles, FSH, 12 months MoT, condition, £14,495. 07583 421823.

LAND ROVER FREELANDER

TD4 SE 2005, low mileage, silver with black windows, heated seats, heated front screen, 12 months MoT, many extras, must be seen.

£6,400.00. 07849 420618.

LANDROVER DISCOVERY TD5 GS 2003, auto, fsh, silver, just serviced, 82k, excellent condition, £7,500. 01384 291273.

MAZDA 2.0 SPORT

2006, 29,800 miles, galaxy grey, electric windows, air bag, electric mirrors, air con, fsh, 12 months MoT, metallic paint, one owner, 6 months tax, alloys, leather interior, petrol, reverse parking sensors, heated leather seats, 6 CD Bose surround sound system.

£7,000.00 o.n.o. 07957 548709.

MAZDA 3 1.6 2007

5dr, 6-speed, petrol, 06 (56 Plate), 35k, ice blue met, ABS, EW, EM, fsh, alarm, immobiliser, airbags, long MoT, CL, PAS, climate, traction and cruise control, tax, alloys, black leather, Bose Prem. Audio with 6CD, 7 speakers.

£4,850 o.n.o.

01691 670039 or 07825 992271.

MAZDA RX8 231PS

05 reg, met. grey, leather, sat nav, 65k, fsh, excellent condition, full electrics, MoT, 6cd, electric leather heated seats, Bose sound system,

£3,450.

07534 307233.

MERCEDES 4 X 4 CDi auto. 155,000 miles, 2 lady owners, MOT, taxed, £3,500 o.n.o. 037120.

MG TF 1.8VVC

04 reg, 51k, grey.

£3,500.

07837 610442.

MINI COOPER D

Chilli, red/white, April 2009, 33,000 miles, FSH, 12 months MoT, NS, advanced lady driver, cheap tax, showroom condition, very reluctant sale.

£8,995.

01902 741100.

MITSUBISHI L200 ANIMAL

05 reg, 2477cc diesel, black, electric heated mirrors, Air Con, stack CD, full leather interior, FSH, 26,000 miles, £6,995 o.n.o.

01543 372465 (after 6pm).

MITSUBISHI SHOGUN ELEGANCE 3.2 DIESEL

2 seater, 3dr, black, 2005, automatic, 44,000 miles, £8,500.

01384 279640.

MITSUBISHI SPACESTAR

5dr, 04 reg, red/petrol, MoT March, 6 months tax, 12 months MoT, 6 months FSH, £78, £1,600. 07838 655085.

NISSAN PRIMERA, 2007, silver, 5-dr, No Tax, 12 moth MoT, 28,000 miles, 12 months FSH, 12 months MoT, £1,000. 04000 n.o. 01902 306717.

NISSAN TERRANO 11TD, swb

commercial jeep, with no windows, 2000, tax/Mot, 2000 miles, £1,000. 07557 405650.

PEUGEOT 306 1.4 HDi

03 reg, 2477cc, tax/Mot, 1,000 miles, £1,000. 01902 306703.

PEUGEOT 206 2.0 HDi DIESEL

52 reg, 63,000 miles, black, 3 door, alloy wheels, e/w, a/c, excellent condition, 2 owners from new.

£2,300.

Telephone 01743 270240.

PEUGEOT 207 1.4i Sport

07 reg, 2005, 33,000 miles, fsh, 12 months MoT, 12 months FSH, £7,750. 01902 306703.

PEUGEOT 207 2.0 HDi DIESEL ESTATE

2004, long MoT and tax, 10,000 miles, good condition, 1 previous owner, new service history, new cambelt.

£2,000.00.

01902 681913 or 07790 886946.

RENAULT KANGOO Autospace

Autospace, 16V, 1.5 dCi, 12 months MoT, 12 months FSH, £1,000. 07794 886046.

RENAULT KANGOO Autospace

Autospace, 16V, 1.5 dCi, 12 months MoT, 12 months FSH, £1,000. 07794 886046.

RENAULT SCENIC 1.6 Privilege

2005, top model, MoT Feb 2013, FSH, full electrics, 47K, £3,300.00.

07894 021799.

SMART FORTWO COUPE

2007, excellent condition, tax to May, MOT to January, panoramic glass roof, fsh, £4,300. 07512 347004.

CARS UNDER £1500

AIR CON, 2010, silver, 5dr,

20,500 miles, manual, petrol, alloy wheels, CD/radio iPod Connectivity, Immaculate 1 year warranty.

£9,000.00.

Call 07976 505155

SUBARU TRIBECA/SE7

2007/07, 72k, petrol, 5 speed auto, MoT, tax, fsh, 5 months warranty, met grey, awd, full leather e/w, a/c, heated front seats, e/sr c/c, alarm, immobiliser, 18ins alloys, 6CD stereo, AM/FM/ MP3, Sat Nav, rear DVD+3, wireless headphones+RC, plus more.

£7,750. 01743 366254.

SUZUKI SWIFT

2006, 29,800 miles, galaxy grey, electric windows, air bag, electric mirrors, air con, fsh, 12 months MoT, metallic paint, one owner, 6 months tax, alloys, leather interior, petrol, reverse parking sensors, heated leather seats, 6 CD Bose surround sound system.

£7,000.00 o.n.o. 07957 548709.

*** VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.4Xi** 07 reg, 52k, 5dr, MoT Aug, tax June, grey, alloys, petrol, vgc, £4,000. 01902 630815.

VAUXHALL ASTRA

Light metalic green, 1999, 160 auto, new 17" alloys and tyres, new cam belt, water pump and brake pipes, tax MoT Sept, family owned, past 10 years, excellent condition.

£850. 07973 823945.

VAUXHALL CORSA

1.2, 05 reg, 51k, 5dr, MoT, 12 months, tax, 12 months FSH, 26,000 miles, £1,000. 07793 098092.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXi

05 reg, 51k, 5dr, MoT, 12 months, tax, 12 months FSH, 26,000 miles, £1,000. 07793 098092.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXi 5dr

05 reg, 51k, 5dr, MoT, 12 months, tax, 12 months FSH, 26,000 miles, £1,000. 07793 098092.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXi 5dr

05 reg, 51k, 5dr, MoT, 12 months, tax, 12 months FSH, 26,000 miles, £1,000. 07793 098092.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXi 5dr

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05 reg, 51k, 5dr, MoT, 12 months, tax, 12 months FSH, 26,000 miles, £1,000. 07793 098092.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXi 5dr

05 reg, 51k

SPORT**Fluency fails to prevent a defeat****Kings Heath 3
Old Halesoniens 0**

OLD Halesoniens' men's seconds failed to get anything from the game against Kings Heath, despite playing some of their best football of the season.

They were fluent on and off the ball, barely allowing their opponents any touches in the early stages. However, Hales lacked a cutting edge and struggled to break into the opponents' D.

When they did, they found a Kings Heath keeper was in inspired form.

Kings Heath took the lead in the closing stages of the first half, as a shot found its way into the bottom corner. Hales' dominance continued in the second half with Nick Truelove flashing a shot just wide and Paul Woodall and Charles Palmer going close as well. But they were twice caught on the break to give the game an unflattering scoreline.

**Old Halesoniens 7
Hampton-in-Arden 3**

The thirds went top of the table for the first time this season and victory against Finchfield at the weekend would see them crowned champions.

They reached the top of the table for the first time this season after an entertaining victory against a very young and talented Hampton side.

Old Hales scored when Matt Harrold broke down the centre and found Adam Hill in the scoring zone for him to tuck the ball away.

Hill's fine shot made it two but Hampton came back strongly to make it 2-2.

Almost immediately, Hill secured his hat-trick only for Hampton to pull one back before the break.

Early in the second half, Harrold again was the tormentor as Dan Millichap found himself on the score sheet only for Hampton to score their third.

Steve Butler then got in on the scoring action after some impressive work by Shakesleton.

Shackleton turned to goal scorer from a short corner to put the result from beyond doubt, making the score line 6-3.

In the final moments Dan Millichap scored his second to extend Hales' lead.

Steve Simonds' final action in a third team shirt saw him clear the ball of the line from a short corner.

Paul Bournville 3 Old Hales fourths 9 Old Hales fifth 5 Wadsworths 2 Kings Heath 0 Old Hales Badgers 5 Kidderminster 0 Old Hales Ladies 1.

Miller's tale of four consecutive draws**Halas Hawks U10 East 1 Trysull 1**

HALAS under-10s East entertained Trysull and made it four draws on the trot.

Halas played very well in the first half and went one up with a good finish from man of the match Oliver Miller. Trysull came back into it and deservedly equalised.

**Halas Hawks U9 East 3
Phoenix Youth 1**

Halas took a deserved lead against Phoenix through a powerful Jack Whitehouse free-kick.

Phoenix equalised in the second half, setting up a tense finish, but

a second goal from Whitehouse and a third by Jack Plant took the pressure off.

**Halas Hawks U9 West 0
Kewford Eagles West 2**

Halas went down 2-0 to Kewford Eagles in a hard-fought game. Man of the match went to stand-in goalkeeper George Priest.

Trysull 3 Halas Hawks U11 West 1

Halas started the stronger and took a well deserved lead. Halas continued to push in the second half and got back into the match with a fine move, well finished by Josh Beasley. However, Trysull

equalised in the second period. Man of the match was Aseil Yafai.

Halas Hawks

took the game with two breakaway goals late on. Man of the match went to Nathan Kennings.

Halas Hawks U12 5 Netherton 0

The under-12s met Netherton Colts won handily with Nick Bennett getting a hat trick and Mohammed Mohamed getting two. Man of the match was Aseil Yafai.

Black Country Colts 0**Halas Hawks U14 2**

A closely contested game was all

square at the break. Halas began to pile on the pressure in the second half and Jack Guest broke the deadlock. Dominic Hipkiss made it two with a fine finish from a tight angle.

Man of the match was Daniel Jennings.

Halas Hawks U15 East 5**Wordsley Wasps 0**

The under-15s East were well worth their victory.

A first-half hat-trick from Dan Willets set them on their way, before Kane Campbell added two more in the second period. Only an

outstanding performance from Wordsley's goalkeeper denied Halas a bigger margin of victory.

Newfield Rangers 2**Halas Hawks U17 4**

A satisfying performance saw the under-17s work up through the gears to beat Newfield Rangers.

Halas went 2-0 up through Mitch Wells with Newfield grabbing one back right on half-time.

A Tom Stevens screamer sent the score to 3-1 with Newfield nicking one back against the run of play. A free-kick by Chris Swancott rounded off the scoring.

Hat-trick hero is a jolly good Fellows**Girls League****Halas Hawks U10 6****Withymoor Colts 0**

A HAT-TRICK in the first 15 minutes from Hannah Fellows, taking her tally for the season to 69, put Halas on their way to victory.

Kirsty Hampton scored a brace and Lara Perry weighed in with the sixth goal.

**Halas Hawks U13 0
Sedgley White Lions 4**

Following a run of excellent results, it was back down to earth with a thump for Halas in this cup match against Sedgley.

Halas did create a few one on ones but went into the break a goal down.

Sedgley continued to press in the second half, scoring another three goals.

Halas Hawks U16 1 Ferndale 1

Halas made hard work of this draw against an in-form Ferndale.

The visitors took the lead in the second half Halas stepped it up and were rewarded with a well-taken goal by Kate Duffy, with the game ending honours even.

Lauren Taylor had her best game of the season to take player of the match.

Doody is brave in points loss**Reserve of resilience as Baggies ride luck****Wigan 1 Albion 1****THIS match will have seemed awfully familiar to Albion fans.**

The team in blue made all the running, played most of the football and created the majority of the chances yet could only emerge with one point to show for their efforts.

But the 4,600 Baggies fans who travelled on Saturday saw this display come, not from Roy Hodgson's men, but from the struggling Latics.

Albion's biggest Premier League away following will remember those depressing ingredients oh so well, writes Steve Madeley.

And they will have left the DW Stadium thankful that, at long last, the boot is often on the other foot.

Hodgson's side failed to turn on the style for the massed ranks of fans who journeyed up the M6 as, six days after their winning run was ended by Manchester United, the Baggies struggled to rediscover the stunning form of the previous month.

Oddest

But they still departed with another useful point towards their Premier League survival from the oddest of draws that showed two things.

Firstly, it suggested the Latics are sliding towards relegation. If they cannot win games they dominate so emphatically, they will struggle to emerge successful from their safety mission.

And secondly, it proved the Baggies now have the reserves of resilience and ability to ride their luck that they have not possessed at any previous stage of their Premier League history.

On another day, or against different opponents, a much-changed side might have returned to the West Midlands on the back of hammering, pursued by a fleet of free coaches populated by angry supporters wondering why they bothered.



Albion's Paul Scharner is congratulated on his goal by Chris Brunt



Wigan's James McArthur scores the opening goal

Instead they returned a point closer to their target after a result that, given the pummelling they endured, left them feeling like they had collected on a 500/1 Cheltenham accumulator.

It was Wigan old-boy Paul Scharner who, with a heavy heart, bit the hand that used to feed him with a second-half Albion equaliser to push his former employers nearer to the end of the Premier League adventure in which he played such a memorable role.

Scharner kept his celebrations subdued out of respect for the club that gave him the break he craved. Yet the Austrian will, in a quiet moment, surely reflect on how his current employers have been successful in leapfrogging his old one in the top flight pecking order.

The positive evolution of the playing staff since Dan Ashworth took up the office of sporting director, combined with Hodgson's

sure hand on the tiller in the last year, has driven the club forward to a point where they can now wheedle points from even the most unlikely scenarios.

Saturday's clash certainly qualified as an unlikely source of Baggies points after an opening period in which they were driven backwards by the home side's novel system, their slick passing and their desperation for victory. Hodgson's men should have been beaten by half-time but had the hosts' dreadful finishing and the brilliance of Ben Foster to thank for being on level terms.

Franco Di Santo could have bagged a hat-trick in the opening six minutes, sending two difficult opportunities high and wide before scooping a glorious chance over the crossbar. On 17 minutes the woodwork came to the visitors' rescue as they failed to block a cross from the left and Emerson Boyce steamed in at the far post to head

against the crossbar. The Latics breakthrough arrived 10 minutes after the interval as Nicky Shorey and Thomas allowed Victor Moses to weave in from the right and cross into the goalmouth, where James McArthur hit the target. But 10 minutes later it was all square against the odds as Scharner headed in Chris Brunt's corner.

The closing stages were marred by an ugly melee that saw Thomas and Youssouf Mulumbu booked when they could have been red for raising their hands.

And there was still time for two more let-offs for the Baggies, first when Mohamed Diame scuffed wide and then when Foster made another smart save to prevent a McAuley own goal.

That ensured an unlikely draw that left Wigan fans lamenting a familiar story and their Albion counterparts reflecting on how it used to be them.

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Ten-man Halesowen propelled to defeat

Halesowen Town 1
Gosport Borough 3
YELTZ defender Richard Huckfield was sent off as they crashed to an Eovo-Stik South Division One defeat.

Huckfield was dismissed seven minutes before the break when he picked up his second booking for hauling down visiting striker Daniel Wooden.

By then the Yeltz were already trailing thanks to Gosport skipper Brett Poate's powerfully drilled 17th-minute free-kick, which gave Paul Evans no chance.

Ben Hasseley missed the home side's best chance of the first half when he fired over from just inside the box.

A man down, the Yeltz came under pressure at the start of the second period but appeared to have weathered the storm before gifting the visitors a second.

The Yeltz were handed a lifeline eight minutes from time when Lee Molynaux pulled back sub Reece Cotterill in the box and Hasseley converted from the spot.

But hopes of a dramatic comeback were short-lived as Bennett set up Sowell for a close range finish that won points for Gospo.

Cricketing legend to join debate

CRICKET great Clive Lloyd is one of the special guests at an evening of sports debate in Birmingham next month.

Baggies boss Roy Hodgson joins the former West Indies skipper for the event, Let's Talk About Sport, at Birmingham Town Hall on Thursday, April 19 at 7.30pm.

Journalist and author Mihir Bose, the BBC's first sports editor and a man who has written for a number of newspapers including the Daily Telegraph and Sunday Times, is the host.

The panelists will share their inside knowledge, banter and sporting memories and answer questions.

Bose said: "Sport has never been more important or as high-profile as it is at the moment."

"The behind-the-scenes issues that shape modern sport are what make it both relevant and controversial."

Tickets cost £22.50 (£15 for students and seniors).

Call 0121 780 3333 or visit the website www.tash.co.uk

Two-goal lead then Rangers crash out

BLACK Country Rangers let slip a two-goal lead as Wednesfield marched through to the last four of the West Midlands Premier Division League Cup.

Leaders Rangers stunned the home side by taking a second-minute lead when David Meese slipped the ball through to Liam Hughes, who coolly side-stepped Wednesfield keeper Sam Arnold to guide the ball into the empty net.

High-scoring Rangers, with more than a hundred goals to their credit this season, made it 2-0 in the eighth minute.

Hughes crossed to leave Alec Roberts with

a simple tap-in with the home defence at sixes and sevens.

However, they sorted out their defensive problems and took the game to the visitors on Tuesday night as Bradley Lewis' shot struck Rangers keeper Richard Kennedy.

This was followed by Lee Butler looping a shot wide with Kennedy out of goal and Simon Ritchie having a shot well saved by the busy Kennedy.

Wednesfield boss Rob Morris made a tactical change at half-time by pushing Bekir Halil forward. This proved to be the turning point as the home side penned the visitors in their own half for long periods.

In the 48th minute Butler's quickly-taken free-kick nearly caught out Kennedy but he made a superb save at the foot of the post.

The home side pulled a goal back in the 62nd minute when Halil slotted home from the penalty spot after Ritchie had been fouled by Shane Parkes.

Ritchie went close to an equaliser but was denied by Kennedy making a brilliant one-

handed save. However, the home side made it 2-2 in the 85th minute when Thomas Horton latched onto a poor defensive clearance.

He picked out the unmarked Halil, who headed home from close range for the equaliser.

Two minutes later substitute Connor Scott won the game for the home side with an excellent shot from 25 yards which defeated the best efforts of Kennedy and rocketed into the roof of the net.

Wednesfield now face Goodrich in a two-legged semi-final.

Tivi draw a blank in bid for top six placing

TIVIDALE 0 Highgate Utd 0

TIVIDALE missed the chance to leap into the top six of the Midland Alliance when they failed to score against bottom-but-one side Highgate United.

On a perfect evening for football the home side opened brightly on Tuesday and in the third minute Kyle Hill brought the first save of the game from Highgate goalkeeper Shaun Edwards.

Hill missed the chance of the game when Edwards parried the winger's effort from six yards.

At the other end Highgate's star performer Liam Florey tested Tim Beech with a shot from 30 yards.

Tividale ended the half strongest with Nicky Dodd, Hill and Cox forcing saves, while Woolman had an effort ruled out for offside.

The second half saw Highgate have the better of the early play and the home side struggled to establish any sort of rhythm.

The game gradually developed into a frustrating affair as referee Davey constantly held up play with long lectures and several bookings, for what appeared to be fairly trivial offences.

The final decent effort came in the 77th minute when Beech had to turn over a cross come shot by Florey.

Motor pair tackle rally at weekend

RALLY pair Richard Archer and Halesowen's John Connor hope for better fortune in Wales this weekend.

They tackle the Bulldog Rally, based at Welshpool, in their ex-works Opel Corsa.

The two have wins to their name but mechanical failure cost them in Dorset's Rallye Sunseeker event.

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CLUB DOCTOR'S CALL OVER MEDICAL RULES

ALBION doctor Mark Gillett has called for all of football to adopt Premier League medical rules in the wake of Bolton player Fabrice Muamba's cardiac arrest.

The Baggies' medical chief dismissed calls for extra heart screening in the top flight and insisted football should focus on spreading Premier League regulations down to the grassroots game and into European competition.

Gillett, a former accident and emergency consultant, helped the FA draw up guidelines adopted by the Premier League in the wake of Chelsea goalkeeper Petr Cech's skull fracture in 2006.

Muamba's collapse during Bolton's FA Cup game at Tottenham on Saturday led to calls for six-monthly heart screening to replace the current tests that take place on players every two years.

But Gillett said: "The Premier League doctors were advised by the top experts in the country that, as guys reached skeletal maturity, the optimum time to do the cardiac screening is once every two years.

Prudent

"There is no advantage to doing it every six months. You're not going to pick up things that develop over that period of time.

"We need to focus on making sure the type of access that Muamba had, to have somebody pump on his chest and give him electricity, is disseminated throughout the lower leagues and age-group football rather than screening players twice a year, which is of no prudent benefit whatsoever."

Gillett drew up the FA guidelines following Cech's collision with Wolves winger Stephen Hunt – then a

by Steve Madeley

Reading player Gillett, who was then a clinical director at Birmingham's Good Hope hospital, devised the exam for emergency treatment which all Premier League doctors and physios must now pass.

He stressed chest pains suffered by Baggies striker Shane Long in recent weeks were completely different to Muamba's problem.

"Shane has pericarditis, which affects the lining of the heart and the most likely thing is that Shane had a low-level viral infection from a cold," said Gillett.

"It didn't put him at risk of any sudden cardiac event like Muamba has had and Shane has completely recovered."

Muamba has continued to make progress.

■ Striker Peter Odemwingie is set to return to action in time for Sunday's Hawthorns clash with Newcastle.

The Nigeria international missed Saturday's draw at Wigan with a calf strain but was expected to make a return to training.

Aside from long-term absentees Zoltan Gera and Steven Reid, Albion hope to have a clean bill of health among their outfield players.

Biker Hughes quickly back into his stride



Bradley Hughes, of Halesowen, testing at Snetterton. Picture: Mike Lawrence, www.superbikesnapper.co.uk

YOUNG Halesowen motorbike star Bradley Hughes has completed his winter testing programme as he prepares for the British championship season.

He took part in a test day at Snetterton on Friday followed by four races over Saturday and Sunday with the Derby Phoenix club. Despite poor weather conditions, he notched up his first win of the season in the Mini Thundershade class.

On Friday, the 15-year-old Windsor High School student was soon back in

his stride on the Honda RS125cc and looked pretty quick within his group of riders – some of whom were on 600cc machinery – and his times came down with every lap.

The session came to an abrupt end as Hughes went down but he was unhurt and the bike suffered only cosmetic damage.

The second session went better as Hughes cut his lap times even further. He was keen to test under race conditions and entered all four Mini Thundershade races with Derby Phoenix on Monday April 9 at Brands Hatch.

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